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O & Y crisis takes its toll on institutions

By
RON CSILLAG

TORONTO —

Orthodox institutions in Toronto that have been funded in whole or part by the Reichmann family are feeling the pinch, if not an outright squeeze, now that Olympia & York Developments Ltd. is working feverishly to stave off bankruptcy.

A *CJN* survey of the charitable causes the Reichmanns support shows that several Orthodox institutions are worried and have been re-evaluating their entire funding apparatus since the Reichmann family has cut back significantly the amounts it used to donate.

In their halcyon days of philanthropy, the Reichmanns, through the family's personal charitable trust — said to be unconnected to O&Y — contributed millions to a myriad of Orthodox facilities, yeshivot, hospitals and institutes for Torah study in Toronto, Israel and around the world.

In Toronto, some of those were familiar to many: the Yeshiva Yesodei HaTorah and the Mesivta Yesodei HaTorah, the Kolel Avreichim and the Bais Yaakov elementary school system and to a lesser extent, the Boat Shul on Bathurst Street.

Perhaps less well known is the fact that the trust gave heavily to Toronto General and Mount Sinai Hospitals; the Baycrest Centre; Bikur Cholim; various Israeli universities and scientific research centres; Ner Israel Yeshiva in Thornhill and State of Israel Bonds; and contributed to the refurbishment of several Orthodox facilities in Hungary and the former Soviet Union.

Those flush state of affairs are slowly grinding to a halt, as the family's business negotiates around the clock with a gaggle of bankers to avoid bankruptcy and restructure O&Y's massive debt, which by some estimates, could be as high as $20 billion.

The Reichmanns turned down *The CJN's* requests for interviews last week.

"It's a major crisis," concedes Rabbi Yaakov Hirschman, co-dean of Kolel Avreichim (Institute for Advanced Talmudic Study) on Coldstream Avenue. "Right now, they [the Reichmanns] are not giving at all."

The cutting off of funds to the Kolel happened virtually overnight, Rabbi Hirschman said.

The Reichmann charitable trust funded "the lion's share" of the Kolel's $1.1 million annual operating budget, half of which goes to support its students and pay its six employees, he pointed out.

Indeed, the Reichmanns were instrumental in setting up the Kolel 14 years ago. The nondescript building houses 25 full-time and 15 part-time students, primarily married men who study Talmud in pairs and attend lectures and seminars given by Talmudic scholars. All of them are provided with scholarships or bursaries.

Hundreds of other men, those with full-time jobs, come to the centre regularly to learn Talmud and ponder questions of halacha and advanced, often complex issues. Over the years, "thousands" of men have studied at the Kolel, Rabbi Hirschman said.

But now, "we're going to have to work much more diligently and raise money ourselves. We're encouraging our graduates to take on fund raising."

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FRIENDLY HANDSHAKE

A Palestinian merchant and an Orthodox Jew shake hands as they do business on a street near the Cave of the Patriarchs in Hebron on the West Bank during Passover. [RNS photo/Reuters]

Israeli Arabs get life for murdering soldiers

JERUSALEM (JTA) —

Four Israeli Arabs who admitted hacking to death three soldiers in their sleep in February have been sentenced to life imprisonment by the Nazareth District Court.

The defendants, who showed no remorse, said they were serving Islam in a holy war against the infidels. Their attorney said the sentences would not be appealed.

The confessed killers are Ibrahim Hassan Agbariya, 27; his brother, Mohammad Hassan Agbariya, 24; their cousin, Yihya Mustafa Agbariya, 24; and Mohammad Tawfik Jabarin, 40.

All were residents of Israel's Wadi Ara region.

They entered the court waving Korans and chanting "Allahu akhbar" (God is great) and readily admitted their crimes, which Judge Yehuda Abramowitz called the acts of "relentless beasts committed brutally and barbarically."

The four said their purpose was to kill "non-believers." On the night of Feb. 14, they entered a lightly guarded recruit training camp near Kibbutz Galed and murdered three soldiers asleep in a tent, using knives, axes and a pitchfork. Two were recent immigrants from the former Soviet Union.

A fourth soldier was wounded. The assailants escaped with their weapons.

District Attorney Esther Sofer, who demanded life terms, said the case was especially vile because there was no connection between the killers and their victims.

The only reason they were murdered was because they were soldiers and Jews, Sofer said.

It was disclosed, meanwhile, that the interrogation of the accused led to the arrests of 12 other Israeli Arabs on charges of arms-trading with terrorists in the territories.

The suspects are in custody pending legal action.

Israel may not attend peace talks in Ottawa

OTTAWA —

Barring any last-minute change of heart, it looks as though Israel will not attend the multilateral round of peace talks to take place here from May 13 to 15.

The Ottawa working group, one of five sets of talks on Mideast regional issues, will focus on refugees, among the touchiest subjects on the table between Israelis and Palestinians.

But Israel says it will stay away from any talks which include Palestinians from outside the West Bank or Gaza Strip — so-called diaspora Palestinians.

And according to External Affairs spokesman Rodney Moore, among the 40 invitations Canada sent out last week was one to an "expanded" Palestinian delegation.

The Palestinians want representatives of their diaspora to be allowed to participate in two of the five sets of talks on regional issues: the one in Ottawa and one on economic development slated for May 12-14 in Brussels.

Their view is that it is impossible to discuss the refugee problem without being allowed representatives from outside the territories, and that non-indigenous Palestinians are an integral and large constituency.

Both the United States and Canada support that position.

Israel has opposed broadened Palestinian participation ever since the opening Madrid talks for fear that it would bolster international support for a right of return of Palestinians to Israel, which only Jews enjoy.

So far, Palestinians from outside the territories have been barred from taking part in the five rounds of bilateral talks between Israel, Syria, Lebanon and a joint Palestinian-Jordanian delegation.

Israel maintains that the same rules — known as the Madrid rules — should apply to the multilateral talks.

A meeting last week in Washington between Israeli Foreign Minister David Levy and U.S. Secretary of State James Baker failed to resolve the issue of Palestinian representation, the Jewish Telegraphic Agency reports.

But later, Levy offered a compromise that would allow non-indigenous Palestinians to attend as part of a delegations from another Arab nation, provided they hold citizenship from that country.

That was flatly rejected by the Palestinian delegation, which said the issue was not Israel's to decide.

According to Aviad Ivri, press spokesman for the Israeli embassy here, Israel's cabinet is scheduled to meet this week to decide how to respond to a widened Palestinian delegation to Ottawa.

But "so far, the answer is no" to Israel's participation if diaspora Palestinians come, Ivri told *The CJN*.

Asked whether Israel could change its mind, Ivri said, "that's the million dollar question." He added, though, that the Ottawa talks would proceed even if Israel stays away.

External Affairs spokesman Moore said Canada has not, as of last Thursday, received any responses to the 40 invitations sent out.

Not invited to Ottawa are the Palestine Liberation Organization, Iran, Iraq and Libya, Moore pointed out.

The other three multilateral regional talks are scheduled for May 11-13 in Washington on the issue of arms control; water resources are to be discussed in Vienna May 12-15 and the environment will be on the table in Tokyo during the week of May 18.

The sixth round of bilateral talks have been scheduled for Rome sometime after Israel's June 23 election.

— R.C.

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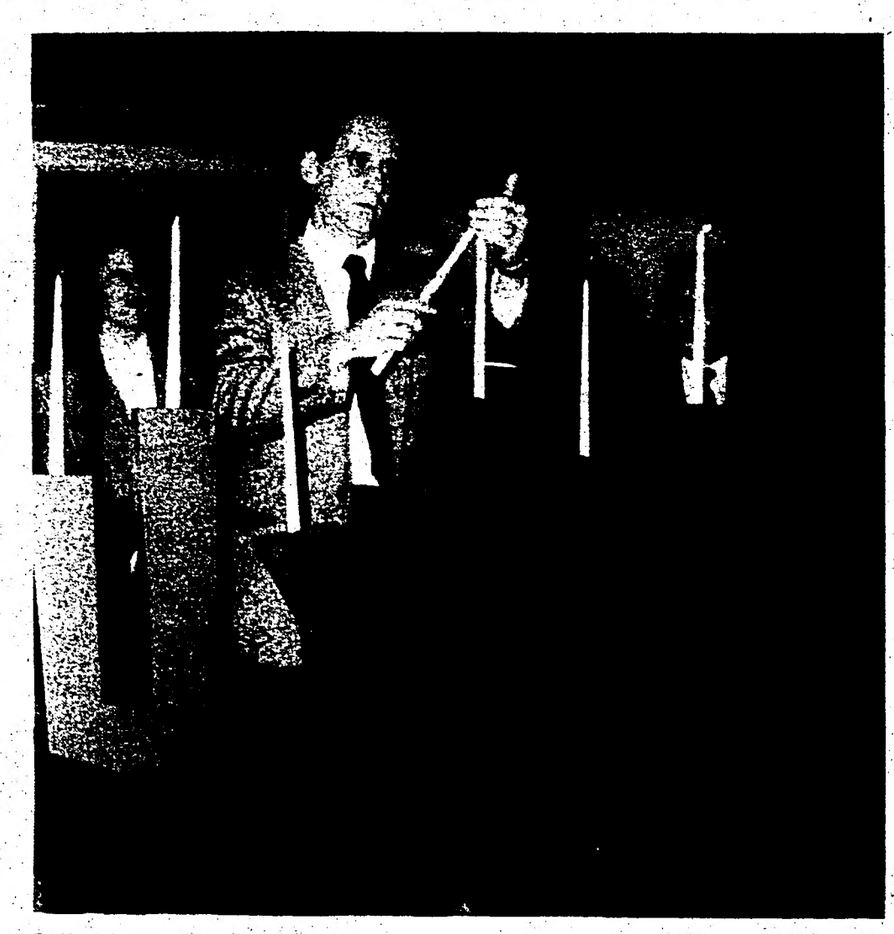
Community remembers Holocaust martyrs



Jack Ajzenberg, a child of Holocaust survivors, lit one of the candles at the Yom Hashoah community commemoration at Beth Tikvah last week. [Alron photo]

Education urged to fight anti-Semitism

By
RON CSILLAG

TORONTO —
Only Jewish education will counter the rising tide of anti-Semitism around the world, the chairman of the International Society for Yad Vashem told over 1,200 people attending a Yom HaShoah VeHagvurah service last week.

Eli Zborowski told the capacity crowd at Beth Avraham Yoseph of Toronto Congregation that Jews "are living in a hostile world."

The resurgence of anti-Semitism is not concentrated in Europe, said Zborowski, himself a Holocaust survivor and a one-time member of ZOB, the Polish-Jewish underground resistance during World War II.

The collapse of the former Communist bloc in Europe has freed up anti-Semitism, while in France, Jean-Marie Le Pen's right-wing party recently garnered 14 percent of the vote in regional elections, said Zborowski, the keynote speaker at the annual service.

In Japan, a book alleging a Jewish conspiracy to seize control of the world has sold one million copies, he said, while Nazi war criminals are "living in luxury" in Australia and New Zealand.

He cited the most recent survey by the Anti-Defamation League, which found that anti-Jewish acts and sentiment are up in the United States for the fifth straight year.

Here at home, Quebec has the highest levels of anti-Semitic sentiment, Zborowski noted.

While all these factors are cause for concern, it is "not time for despair or defeatism."

Jewish education is the answer, for Jews as well as non-Jews, he said.

And Jews "must never bury their heads in the sand" for fear of adverse publicity in the fight against anti-Semitism.

The New York-based International Society for Yad Vashem raises money and awareness for the Holocaust Remembrance Authority in Jerusalem. The Canadian Society for Yad Vashem, the service's co-sponsor, does the same in this country.

Opening remarks came from evening co-chairmen Debbie Berlach and Irving Eisner.

Greetings from the State of Israel were brought by Israeli trade commissioner Benjamin Noy.

A moving dvar Torah was delivered by BAYT Rabbi Baruch Taub.

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At the Yom HaShoah VeHagvurah service, held at the BAYT, are (from left) Debbie Berlach, service co-chairman; Joel Dimitry, national chairman of the Canadian Society for Yad Vashem; keynote speaker Eli Zborowski; Irving Eisner, service co-chairman; and Rabbi Baruch Taub.

Righteous gentile downplays efforts

By
FRANCES KRAFT

TORONTO —
Some of the approximately 800 people attending last week's Yom Hashoah commemoration at Beth Tikvah Synagogue probably didn't see the white-haired man in his wheelchair at the front of the sanctuary. Rev. Pieter Miedema sat at the base of the bimah as his wife lit a candle on behalf of both of them.

Although the Miedemas, who live in Bowmanville, have been written about in two books, it is only recently that they came to the attention of the Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto's Holocaust remembrance committee, who wanted to honor them at the commemoration service and are setting the wheels in motion to have them officially recognized as Righteous among the Nations.

A minister in the northern part of Holland during the war, Rev. Miedema found hiding places for Jewish children with his parishioners, his daughter Sylvia Amesbury told *The CJN*, and the couple used their own attic as a hiding place. He hid a family of four in a bush, a harrowing experience when they heard Nazi soldiers surrounding them discuss whether to search the bush, eventually deciding that it was too thick for anyone to hide in. All four family members survived and still live in Holland.

An outspoken person, according to his daughter, Rev. Miedema now finds speech difficult following a stroke. He always downplayed his heroism, recalls Amesbury, to the extent of ripping up citations sent by generals MacArthur and Eisenhower, saying that what he did was "the ordinary thing" and "what a human being is meant to do."

Other heroes of the Shoah were recalled in readings citing Jews who escaped from concentration camps, attacked Nazi soldiers and blew up a crematorium in Auschwitz with stolen explosives.

"Hardly a day passed without some act of defiance," said keynote speaker Judge Philip Givens. He rejects the stereotype of "sheepish submissiveness" on the part of Shoah victims. "The will to resist was strong and took many forms," he said.

Givens lamented the fact that the Canadian government "has done a lousy job" of bringing war criminals to justice. "We must demand that those who remain be prosecuted for their criminal acts," he said.

Givens, whose family immigrated from Poland to Canada before World War I, visited Auschwitz in 1965. He described what he saw there: "huge showcases with hundreds if not thousands of battered suitcases, thousands of pairs of shoes, tons of clothing, bales of human hair, many prosthetic appliances, lampshades of human skin, hundreds of siddurim and sforim — thousands, probably. On the doorposts of the gas chambers I could see long, deep, narrow gouges in the wood where panic-stricken inmates tried to claw their way out."

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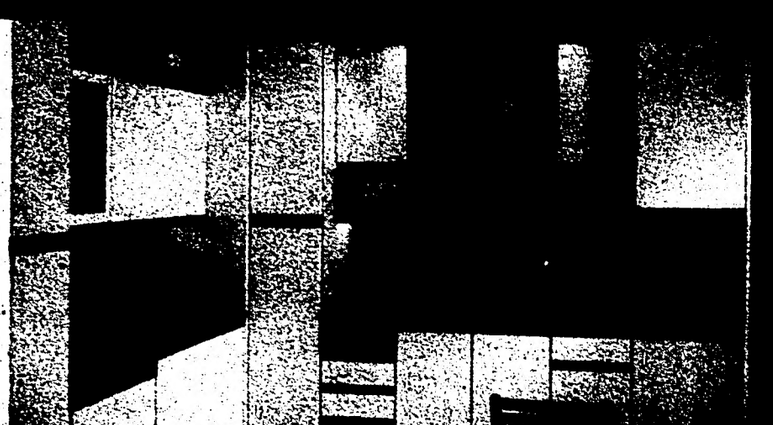

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Yom Ha'atzmaut

The following is a message by the President of Israel, Chaim Herzog, to Jewish communities abroad on the 44th anniversary of Israel's independence.

A year ago, as we approached Israel's 43rd Independence Day, we looked with relief on the cessation of the Gulf War. Israel had suffered no little loss and damage, but it shared the widespread hope that a better world order would emerge. Now, on the eve of our 44th Independence Day, the world we face is beset by political turmoil, economic recession, and widespread increase of terrorist activity, rooted to a very great extent in Islamic fanaticism.

That last development, tragic as it is, does not come to us as a surprise. I have long been pointing out that international obsession with the Israel-Arab conflict has blinded political observers in the democracies to the insidious threat posed by fundamentalism in Muslim societies. It has now become all too clear that this threat knows no boundaries and endangers the world at large.

As the case of Iraq demonstrates, today's terrorists are frighteningly endeavoring to equip themselves with weapons of mass destruction. We see Iraq itself, despite international bans and boycotts, persistently endeavoring to outwit the United Nations.

We recall with special grief the fate of Israelis and local Jews — and innocent bystanders — at the hands of fanatical terrorists in Argentina and Turkey and elsewhere. Without worldwide vigilance and co-operation, the deadly threat cannot begin to be overcome.

Yet the year has had its hopeful aspects even in the stormy Middle East. The peace talks going on between Israel and Arab nations may be moving very slowly and as yet inconclusively, but they continue. This in itself is a revolutionary development and leaves the way open for eventual understanding. That the way will be long, trying and complicated is obvious, but the effort must go on for the sake of all the peoples of the area.

In the coming elections, the Israeli public will be called upon to make decisions which relate, inter alia, to the peace process. This reflects one of the many asymmetries which characterize this region — one democracy in which decisions are made by the entire populace, surrounded by countries with different regimes and decision-making processes.

For Israel's own future, the importance of aliya as a factor cannot be over-estimated. The surge of hundreds of thousands out of Eastern Europe and Ethiopia has brought un-

Chaim Herzog

anticipated blessings — able, gifted, eager masses of Jews who desperately need Israel as a refuge and home in the face of shifting, insecure and ominous political, economic and social conditions in their previous homelands.

The enormous numbers of two years ago have diminished, partly no doubt because of tentative political changes, partly because it has been impossible for Israel quickly to provide deisrable conditions, particularly appropriate employment, for all.

Yet, aliya is still continuing on a scale far larger than we saw for tens of years, and the option of further increase is very much alive. Daily in Israel we are reminded not to accept the idea that full absorption is impossible. We must continue to work at achieving it in the context of economic growth which remains one of our chief and most necessary goals.

And world Jewry, too, which has participated so ardently in aiding the great exodus and replanting in our time — world Jewry must surely continue to pull its full weight at this breath-taking historic juncture in Jewish history.

The enriching impact of the new aliya ia already perceptible in the social and cultural map of Israel and in the tone and level of daily life. No effort to aid the process is too much. Cause for hope is surely here even in the midst of this problematic, often deeply troubling time. Israel has other sources of gratification as well. Major parts of the world have opened to it officially — China and India which had never recognized it, and now new republics grown out of the one-time Soviet Union.

As we mark Israel's Independence Day, we also note two significant historical anniversaries. In several weeks, Jerusalem, eternal capital of the Jewish people and the seat of Israel's government, will celebrate a quarter century since its reunification, and this year we mark 500 years of Jewish expulsion from Spain.

I recently had the honor of representing Israel on a state visit to Spain and was present as King Juan Carlos I participated in the Madrid synagogue with me in an historic act of reconciliation. At that time, my thoughts turned to the resilience of our people and their ability to rise to meet and overcome what appear to be insurmountable difficulties.

As we enter a new year in Israel's existence as an independent and sovereign nation, I feel confident that the same spirit and ability which have borne us through past millenia will continue to accompany us through the challenges which lie ahead, and enable us to utilize to the maximum the opportunities which we are granted.

The following is a message from the Prime Minister of Israel, Yitzhak Shamir, for Yom Ha'atzmaut.

On this Yom Ha'Atzmaut we shall enter the 45th year of our renewed independence in our sovereign land, Eretz Israel, and three weeks later we shall celebrate the 25th anniversary of the liberation and unification of Jerusalem, the nation's capital. These two soul-stirring experiences emphasize the extraordinary privilege that has been granted to the present generations of our people.

At this milestone, we look back on the road we have travelled, the problems with which we have had to contend, and all that we have accomplished, and we proclaim that the Shehecheyanu prayer with profound feelings of thanksgiving that we have reached this season.

We have succeeded in maintaining our capacity to defend our nation and our deterrent capacity, largely because of the motivation of our young generation who have the duty and privilege to protect the land and safeguard its citizens.

We have seen the truly magnificent renewal of the momentum of Shivat Zion — the return to Zion — as tens of thousands of our brethren streamed into the country from all parts of the Soviet Union and Ethiopia.

When we saw the Ethiopian olim descend from the aircraft, the thought uppermost in our minds was: if only we had been in that situation 50 years ago. This is the meaning of the sovereign Jewish state — a homeland for every Jew who needs it — when he needs it.

As a result of this Shivat Zion we are steadily approaching the time when the majority of the Jewish people will be concentrated here, in Eretz Israel, which will regain its role as the physical, cultural and spiritual centre of the entire Jewish people.

The great wave of aliyah has placed extraordinary demands on us to make sure that the newcomers are successfully absorbed and integrated. Since the establishment of the state, we have never faced a challenge of such magnitude. The newcomers, who arrive with nothing, are provided with all their basic needs, but the creation of job opportunities for such a large number of educated, skilled people, presents the greatest difficulty.

Yitzhak Shamir

For such an undertaking, we need the united effort of the entire Jewish people, their maximum financial involvement by contribution and investment. I firmly believe, if we make these efforts together, we will be successful in this great enterprise as well.

We derive much satisfaction from the fact that within the past year we have seen the breakdown of the diplomatic boycott of Israel, with the normalization of relations with Israel by countries like China, India, Russia, the Baltic states, the new republics and African countries. We hope to open a new chapter of fruitful co-operation with these states and make our modest contribution to the strengthening of freedom and democracy.

In the outgoing year we took the first steps on the long road towards peace between Israel and our neighbors. We will make every effort possible to keep the progress on track, despite unrelenting, vicious terror attacks, despite the continuing intifada, despite the feverish arming of our neighbors around us, and despite the fact that most Arab states continue to reject Israel's right to existence and legitimacy.

We are confident that, at the end of the long road, we shall reach, with God's help, the shores of peace and therefore, we shall persevere with patience and tenacity.

Meanwhile, the dangers facing us and the threats to our security have not abated. A host of terrorist organizations continue to attack Israel, its citizens, and missions abroad. And Arab governments are making every effort to acquire massive quantities of arms and weapons of mass destruction. In spite of the end of the Cold War, our region has not become safer. Israel is doing its best to ensure its capacity to defend itself and to maintain its deterrent capacity and its qualitative edge in the face of these formidable dangers.

Because of the national achievements in the past, and our present efforts, we enter the year ahead with determination and strength, and face the future with confidence. From Jerusalem, the nation's capital, I send heartfelt greetings to the Jewish communities in all parts of the world on the occasion of the wonderful festival of Yom Ha'Atzmaut. Chag sameach.

Montreal examining immigration plan

By
JANICE ARNOLD

MONTREAL —

Montreal Jewish community leaders grappled with the dilemma of whether to become involved with a project that appears, at least, to encourage the immigration of Jews from the former Soviet Union away from Israel, Allied Jewish Community Services president Harvey Wolfe admits.

On balance, though, the leadership decided the accord with the Quebec government would be both a humanitarian gesture to fellow Jews fearful of their future and a "psychological boost" to Montreal Jews.

Wolfe said the leadership consulted with the Israeli consulate in Montreal before going ahead with the one-year pilot project and was satisfied that the relatively small number of eligible Jews from the Commonwealth of Independent States, Baltic countries and Georgia mitigated any "moral dilemma."

"My personal feeling is that every Soviet should go to Israel," Wolfe said. However, he added 100 families is not a large number and would give the Montreal Jewish community a psychological, if not significant, demographic boost.

The very fact that Jews choose to come to Quebec at a time when many members of the community are leaving will be a positive development, he thinks.

Wolfe also sees it as an opportunity for the community at large, through synagogue and other groups, to volunteer in the effort to integrate these people. This means more than finding them jobs; it could be as simple a gesture as inviting the newcomers to one's home for dinner, he said.

Perhaps, most importantly, Wolfe views the project as a way of "legitimizing what is already happening." After Canada stopped automatically recognizing Jews from the Soviet Union as refugees in 1990, most Soviet Jews arrived in Quebec on visitors' visas and claimed refugee status here.

Immigration Minister Monique Gagnon-Tremblay has said she hoped this "circumventing" of the system would stop and that this project will provide a legitimate route for them to enter Quebec.

Canada has also indicated it will be more stringent in issuing visitor's visas to Soviets.

Israeli Consul General Itzhak Levanon declined to comment at length on the project, but said if the number of former Soviets remains as small as intended, no serious conflict exists with the Israeli government view that all such Jews should make aliyah.

Because of the commitment that has been made to help find jobs and meet essential needs, Levanon does not think the community will be able to help many more.

The 100 families in this "fast-track" project do not represent the total number of former Soviet Jews who will arrive in Quebec over the next year. Jewish Immigrant Aid Services Montreal director Joel Moss said others will continue to be processed through the regular channels, primarily under the family class.

In 1991, about 200 Soviet families, or 375-400 individuals, arrived in Montreal, according to JIAS. Moss estimates JIAS sees at least 75 percent of Soviet immigrants. Most came as visitors.

At least 100 Soviet Jewish families are now "in the pipeline," waiting to come to Quebec, but Moss would not guess how many will get here this year. Among the 60,000 immigration applications at the Canadian Embassy in Moscow, JIAS has already identified 600-900 from Jews wishing to come to Quebec specifically, Moss said.

Moss said the project with Quebec allows Soviet Jewish immigration in an "open, planful" way. How to make the selection for fast-tracking, Moss admits, is a "delicate issue" and he did not make clear how JIAS will decide on the applicants it will refer to the Immigration Ministry.

These will have to come directly from the CIS, Baltic or Georgia, and those already in "the pipeline" may not be eligible.

Moss thinks that, despite the recession, the picture isn't so gloomy for immigrants. He pointed out that JIAS's caseload in Montreal doubled last year, yet demand for financial assistance was down 25 percent, indicating people found work of some kind.

Gagnon-Tremblay aide Barbara Berger, who played a key role in bringing together the Jewish community and the government, feels the accord is mutually beneficial to Quebec and the Jewish community, as well as for prospective immigrants.

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Canada

Dachau service being planned

By
RON CSILLAG

TORONTO —

An American Holocaust remembrance group and a German Jewish organization are urging the leaders of the G-7 nations, including Prime Minister Brian Mulroney, to attend a special memorial service at Dachau on July 5.

The G-7 leaders will meet in Munich, Germany for a summit beginning July 6, and the South Florida Committee to Remember the Holocaust, together with the Munich-based German-Israeli Society, wants them to seize the opportunity and go to the Dachau concentration camp just outside Munich.

The purpose would be to commemorate the Holocaust and tell the world, through the nearly 10,000 journalists present, that it should never happen again, according to committee co-chairman Robert Kunst. The leaders would lay wreaths and pay tribute to Dachau's victims, survivors and liberators.

"It's now or never," Kunst told *The CJN* in a telephone interview. "The G-7 leaders won't be in Germany again in a long time and probably not while there are survivors of Dachau left."

Kunst and his committee have sent letters to all the G-7 leaders and he says U.S. President George Bush and French President Francois Mitterrand have "left the door open" for a possible Dachau visit.

Replies from Mulroney, the leaders of Italy, Britain, Japan and Russian President Boris Yeltsin, who has been invited to the summit, haven't been received yet, Kunst said.

So far, the only fly in the ointment has been German Chancellor Helmut Kohl, who has turned down the committee's request.

A letter to Kunst from an aide says there is "no obvious reason for the Chancellor to address the Holocaust and Germany's responsibility for it, as you demand. I do not accept your premise that the Chancellor has not so far taken a clear and convincing position on the issue. He has done so in the past."

The letter goes on to state that Germany has condemned recent incidents of racism and xenophobia.

"Shame, shame, shame," Kunst shot back in a letter, saying that Kohl's decision is the latest incident to add insult to injury to Jews.

The committee's idea is for people to gather on July 5 at the memorial to the 11 Israeli athletes murdered at the Munich Olympic Games in 1972, and march the 25 kilometres to Dachau, where the G-7 leaders would preside over the service.

Kunst says Canada has a special role to play in that it could convince G-7 heavyweights like Bush, Mitterrand and Britain's John Major to attend the memorial, in which case Kohl would have no choice but to go.

No one from Mulroney's office returned *The CJN*'s calls regarding the prime minister's plans at the G-7 summit.

Court turns down new trial for Finta

By
PAUL LUNGEN

TORONTO —

The prosecution of alleged Nazi war criminals received another setback last week as the Ontario Court of Appeal turned down a Crown request that it order a new trial in the case of former Hungarian gendarmerie captain Imre Finta.

The decision, released ironically on the eve of Yom Hashoah commemorations, led to immediate calls by Canadian Jewish Congress and B'nai Brith Canada for a further appeal to the Supreme Court of Canada. Crown attorney Christopher Amerasinghe said he is studying the judgment and will recommend a course of action to the Attorney General within a week.

In a 3-2 decision, the majority of the court held that despite a procedural error by the trial judge that allowed the defence the opportunity to address the jury last, the Crown had failed to show that the acquittal verdict would have been different without the judicial mistake.

All five justices rejected constitutional attacks on the Criminal Code's war crimes section.

Finta had been charged with robbery, kidnapping and forcible confinement of 8,617 Jews in the south Hungarian city of Szeged in June 1944, and responsibility for the manslaughter of some who were placed, under his supervision, on sealed trains bound for Auschwitz and Austria.

Fundamental error

Dissenting justices Charles Dubin and Walter Tarnopolsky argued that the trial judge made a fundamental error in outlining the law to the jury. They said he was wrong when he told the jury it was up to them to determine not only whether Finta's acts violated Canadian law at the time but also whether his acts were so egregious that they were elevated to the status of war crimes or crimes against humanity. That was a jurisdictional question that ought to have been left to the judge.

The majority of the court, Justices Louise Arbour, Coulter Osborne and David Doherty, agreed however with the trial judge that it was up to the jury to determine both whether Finta violated Canadian law and whether those acts were also war crimes.

Chief Justice Dubin, with Tarnolopolsky agreeing, said he would also have overturned the acquittal and ordered a new trial because "the inflammatory address [by defence lawyer Doug Christie] tainted the trial."

While the majority described Christie's remarks as "improper in the extreme" and "unworthy of a counsel of his experience" they said the trial judge's charge to the jury cured any taint.

Responding to the court decision, Congress spokesman Milton Harris said "we remain convinced that a continuing effort to bring suspected Nazi war criminals to justice is vital and will be succesful."

B'nai Brith spokesman Paul Marcus called for a re-evaluation of current efforts to bring war criminals to justice.

Rabbi Abraham Cooper of the Simon Wiesenthal Centre in Los Angeles said "the decision reflects the overall unsatisfactory record of Canada in dealing with accused war criminals."

In addition to the Finta acquittal, Crown prosecutors have dropped charges against Michael Pawlawski and Stephen Reistetter.

Name Game

MOGIL

Here is a surname that always fascinated me. It conjured up images of a Hindustani potentate or a deluxe Egyptian cigarette.

It turns out, however, to be an abbreviation of Mogilevski, with its tail chopped off. Mogilev is a city in White Russia, east of Minsk, one of the trilogy of Minsk, Pinsk and Dvinsk.

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CIC takes issue with Palestinian speaker

By
DAVID LAZARUS

MONTREAL —

Canada-Israel Committee (CIC) officials in Quebec were expected early this week to voice concern to International Affairs Minister John Ciaccia over high-profile Palestinian spokesman Hanan Ashrawi speaking here May 8 under the ministry's co-sponsorship.

Ciaccia's office, however, said it was unaware that a group it partially funds had invited Ashrawi and that the news caught it by surprise.

"We were not pleased with the sponsorship, obviously," said Terry Kaspi-Elituv, Quebec director of the CIC.

But Manon Chevalier, Ciaccia's press attache, said while Ciaccia's office does provide some general funding to the Conseil des relations internationales de Montreal (CRIM), the organizer of the luncheon Ashrawi will address, it does not keep track of who gets invited to speak at CRIM programs.

The ministry's role in CRIM programs is a "general sponsorship," Chevalier said. "We're not [made] aware of the contents of events."

She added that the although the ministry was a "bit embarrassed" that it did not know of Ashrawi's invitation, it also wanted to be "cautious" in responding. "It's a very touchy matter and we take it seriously."

Ashrawi, a professor at the recently reopened Bir Zeit University on the West Bank, is a leading member of the Palestinian delegation attending Mideast peace talks and has been one of its most highly-quoted spokesman in the world media.

The CIC also acknowledges that Ashrawi "is recognized as a major player in the peace process."

Besides the ministry, CRIM also named l'Association Quebec-Palestine, la Fondation Canado-Palestinienne, and le Conseil National des relations Canado-Arabes as the other luncheon co-sponsors.

Kaspi-Elituv said it is almost certain that Ashrawi came to Canada primarily to attend the regional talks on refugees that are scheduled to take place in Ottawa in mid-May. Ashrawi will likely stay in Canada for two weeks, she said.

The talks in Ottawa, one of five cities worldwide where regional discussions are set to take place (the others are Washington, Vienna, Brussels and Tokyo) are intended to complement Arab-Israel peace negotiations on related Mideast issues: respectively, refugees, arms control, water resources, economic development and environment.

But Israel said it would boycott the talks in Ottawa and Brussels if American and Russian co-ordinators invited Palestinians from outside the occupied territories. Israel believes such invitations would be tantamount to officially recognizing the territories as the "homeland" to which Palestinian exiles are entitled to return.

Ironically, Ciaccia is scheduled to arrive in Israel on the same day as Ashrawi's talk, May 8, as part of a week-long official visit to examine potential bilateral trade ventures between Quebec and Israel, particularly in the field of high technology.

The trip is being jointly co-ordinated by the Quebec International Affairs Ministry, the Canadian Embassy in Israel, and by the Israeli Consulate and trade commission in Montreal.

O & Y crisis takes toll

[Cont'd. from page 1]

The Kolel has raised funds publicly before, "but this is the first time we've done it on this concentrated a level."

Rabbi Hirschman said the institute will cut its budget, and he could not rule out layoffs. "I would hate to put anyone out on the street."

And as someone who is close to the notoriously secretive Reichmanns, Rabbi Hirschman said "it's fair to say" the family channeled "millions" of dollars to Orthodox institutions in Toronto last year alone.

The Orthodox community anticipated cutbacks and belt-tightening when rumors of the Reichmann's woes first surfaced, "but not of this magnitude."

Similar sentiments were echoed by communal leader Kurt Rothschild.

Orthodox institutions in the city "are greatly worried. They face a very difficult situation," said Rothschild, a friend of the family. "They are going to have to restructure operations and reduce costs." Rothschild too could not rule out layoffs.

One of the surest consequences of the cutbacks will be the "nearly certain" tuition fee hikes at Yeshiva Yesodei HaTorah and in the Bais Yaakov elementary system, Rothschild said.

"That's going to be very difficult. Many of these families have low incomes."

Over 1,200 students — boys at the yeshiva and girls at Bais Yaakov — attend the schools.

Rothschild wouldn't say how deep the cutbacks from the Reichmanns will be, but the current hard times are best evidenced by a recent public appeal by the schools for contributions to the Samuel and Renee Reichmann Endowment Fund for Yeshiva Yesodei HaTorah/Bais Yaakov.

Never before have the schools launched a fundraising campaign to meet their budgetary requirements.

Until now, the yeshiva, which the late parents of Albert, Paul and Ralph Reichmann helped found, was supported mainly by the family, Rothschild said.

Rothschild called on the general community, especially on parents of children attending the schools, to respond to "this very grave" emergency they face.

Paul Reichmann

Albert Reichmann

While Rothschild stressed that the charitable trust is privately administered by the Reichmann family, he acknowledged that its fortunes depend to a large extent on the family's business earnings.

"To say we're not anxious is incorrect," a spokesman for Yeshiva Yesodei HaTorah, who asked not to be identified, told *The CJN.* "The time of freebies has taken a vacation."

The yeshiva cannot afford to make any cuts because "we have no luxuries here. Any cutbacks will affect the style of the school."

The spokesman said there has been "tremendous" support for the yeshiva from the Orthodox community since rumors of the Reichmann's financial problems began.

Those problems have extended as far as Jerusalem, where a 2,200-unit housing development for ultra-Orthodox Jews has been scrapped and a $30 million loan to the capital for a new City Hall complex has been dropped, the *Jerusalem Report* said in its April 16 edition.

Court upholds bar of Nazi rocket scientist

By
PAUL LUNGEN

TORONTO —

The Federal Court of Appeal has turned down a request by former Nazi rocket scientist Arthur Rudolph that it reverse an adjudicator's order barring him from Canada, but it did so while criticizing the adjudicator for imposting on the government too high a standard of proof and for according Rudolph "the benefit of the doubt," something to which he was not entitled.

The court said it was reasonable to conclude that Rudolph aided and abetted in the forcible confinement and kidnapping of prisoners while he was production chief of the V-2 rocket factory in Germany, from 1943-45.

It also rejected defence lawyer Barbara Kulaszka's contention that war crimes and crimes against humanity did not exist in law at the time. Rudolph's role in forcing prisoners to "take an active part in the production of the V-2 rocket, whose purpose and eventual actual use was to cause death

[Cont'd. on page 9]

Berman leaves embassy

By
BEN ROSE

TORONTO —

After 16 months, Dmitri Berman left his refuge in the Canadian Embassy in Moscow April 30 but his future course of action is shrouded in mystery.

The 28-year-old Ukrainian Jew still faces a charge of murder. His previous conviction on the charge was thrown out, but Ukrainian authorities have reactivated the case.

Asked if Berman had agreed to stand trial in Kiev before he left the Embassy, Department of External Affairs spokesman Scott Mullen said: "I don't think so. His legal problems with the Ukraine are not over."

Mullen said the Embassy knows where Berman is in the greater Moscow area and he is safe but the department does not wish to give any specific information fearing it would jeapordize his safety and security.

Berman left the Embassy because he was not satisfied with his accommodation, Mullen said. (He was living in the basement.)

The central figure in this cause celebre has repeatedly charged that he was tortured and forced to take mind-altering drugs while in the custody of the Ukrainian police.

"It is outrageous and ludicrous that the file on Dmitri Berman is still open," David Leopold, of Cleveland, his lead foreign counsel, and a member of the board of the Union of Councils for Soviet Jewry, told *The CJN.*

Leopold saw Berman in the Embassy in March and at that time the young Soviet Jew said nothing about leaving the Embassy. "I suppose it depends on how you define the word leave," Leopold said. "Berman will not be safe from bodily harm until he is on the soil of Israel."

The continued prosecution of Berman is a hangover from the Cold War, he said. Leopold added: "Dmitri Berman will never stand trial on that murder charge again."

Asked if Berman had attempted suicide, External Affairs spokesman Mullen said: "He threatened to do so, but he was dissuaded." Canadian Ambassador Michael Bell was in on the negotiations with Berman and his father, Lev, about leaving the Embassy, and Barbara MacDougall, the Minister of External Affairs, in Ottawa, kept in close touch, the spokesman said.

A Western doctor and a Western psychiatrist, from countries outside the former Soviet Union, were in attendance while the negotiations were going on.

There is an unconfirmed report that Berman and his father are in the Moscow Yeshiva.

Mullen said the Embassy offered to find alternative accommodation for them but Berman and his father said they would find their own.

"We will continue to monitor the case closely in Moscow and Kiev," the spokesman said.

Frieberg running for CJC region

TORONTO —

For the first time since at least the 1940s, voters will get to choose between two candidates for the positions of chairman of the Ontario region of Canadian Jewish Congress and national vice-president representing the region.

Gerda Frieberg will vie with Mark Anshan for the position of Ontario chairman, while Jeffrey Lipsitz has been nominated as national vice-president, a position sought by outgoing regional chairman, Eric Slavens.

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World

CJN Exclusive

Haim Harari

Haim Harari, president of the Weizmann Institute of Science since 1988, puts in 18-hour days bridging the gap between academia and administration, between the university and the outside world.

A world authority on theoretical particle physics, the 51-year-old Harari was in Toronto recently as part of a North American/European tour to meet with local supporters of the Institute. During his stay, he taped two segments of Quirks and Quarks *for CBC Radio, the second of which is scheduled to air this Saturday, May 8, on the noontime program.*

CJN reporter Frances Kraft interviewed him about the Weizmann Institute and the importance of science in today's world.

CJN: *What are your priorities at the Weizmann Institute, and why are they important?*

Harari: A few years ago we made a decision to emphasize five main areas over the next decade, not necessarily in this order of importance: brain research; computer science; the environment and energy; fighting diseases, which includes cancer research, autoimmune diseases, genetic diseases and children's diseases; and the fifth area, which is new to the institute — micro-electronics.

Our policy is that we don't get into a specific area unless we have absolutely top-notch people in that area. In those five areas we do have excellent people, and that's why we're going after them.

CJN: *What is Weizmann doing to help absorb the Russian olim who are scientists? How well-trained are they compared to scientists from Israel and other countries?*

Harari: At the Weizmann Institute we now have 160 Russian scientists from the last wave of immigration. All of them are very good. We didn't make allowances for them.

The younger people are absolutely fabulous. They have good training, brilliant minds, and quite a number of them, in my opinion, are going to become real stars.

The older people are very, very good, but the absolute first-class international stars, in mathematics and physics especially, are mostly already in the United States. The ones that we have are very good, but their numbers are very small.

CJN: *How are they being absorbed into the larger scientific community in Israel?*

Harari: The problem in Israel in general is much more complicated, because we are talking not about 100 or 200 absolutely first-class people, but about many thousands of scientists, engineers, technicians and others.

The only way to employ them is industry. That requires a big expansion of the infrastructure of industry in Israel, and that's not going to happen overnight, but it's happening slowly.

CJN: *What is your policy on tuition for the Russian immigrants?*

Harari: If we have a really superb man or woman coming to us, we take them and we don't look into whether we do or do not have the money.

Of course this is a dangerous statement to make, because we would like people to give money to help us absorb these people.

CJN: *What is Weizmann doing in the area of environmental science?*

Harari:

We have had activities in these areas for 40 years now, but it is only a year and a half ago that we decided to form a department which is entirely devoted to this issue, and it is already being expanded.

One of the important issues in environmental science is the problem at the interface between the desert regions and the green areas of the world. It is there that the disaster will strike if there is global warming, because the desert will move into the green area. There are only two places in the world in which the desert touches the green area in a country where first-class science is being done, and that's the United States (Southern California) and Israel.

That puts our scientists in a unique position to do very exciting work.

CJN: *Solar energy, which has also been a major focus at Weizmann, is good for the environment. Why do you think it hasn't caught on as a more common source of energy?*

Harari:

You see, when you buy gasoline or when you use coal in a power station, you pay for what it costs to produce it and for the profit of all the people in the chain, but you don't pay for the cost of removing the negative effects of it, which will happen later. And that cost is enormous.

Now, in the case of solar energy, there are no negative effects, but the original cost of producing the energy is higher.

In my opinion there's no doubt that sooner or later solar energy will become much more important.

CJN: *Brain research is the focus of fund-raising efforts for the Weizmann Institute this year. Is there some area of brain research that you're zeroing in on?*

Harari: Yes. We have, for instance, one very exciting group at the Weizmann Institute working on understanding the process of vision from the point of view of artificial intelligence and computer science.

We have another group dealing with the processes of memory. There's another group doing very exciting modern work on optical imaging of the brain, understanding which part of the brain is functioning when performing a given task by getting optical signals from the brain.

CJN: *Could the vision research lead to some kind of artificial vision?*

Harari: In principle, yes. It already led to something else, and that is to an industry which is producing fascinating machines which replace vision in inspecting chips.

CJN: *Has Weizmann, because of changing technology, opened any new departments within the last five years?*

Harari: We have offered three new departments and several new projects during the last few years, but we also closed several departments.

Science is changing. It makes no sense to add and add and add and keep the old stuff going. That's important from a management point of view.

CJN: *What are the job prospects for graduating scientists? What areas are they most needed in?*

Harari: Job prospects in Israel are very difficult now, because of the Russian immigration. We are flooded with competent people, and unemployment has risen.

One of the difficulties for graduate scientists is that when you decide to study a subject, you relate to the job market of 8 to 10 years later, because you get a master's degree, then a PhD, then you go on a post-doctoral fellowship. There's no one on earth who can tell you in 1992 what the job prospects will be in Israel or anywhere else in 2002.

CJN: *Do you feel any changes need to be made in the teaching of science?*

Harari: This is a loaded question. I could talk about it for 15 hours.

The minister of education in Israel, a year ago, decided to appoint a high-level committee to chart the course of science and technology in Israel for the next decade. I'll be the chairman of this committee. Our recommendations will be released shortly.

Basically our report says the most important thing is science for the entire population, at one level or another. The main thing is speaking the language of science and understanding the way science operates. It's not so important to learn one scientific fact or another, one equation or another, that's not important at all.

CJN: *Do high school students in Israel have to take science?*

Harari: In Grade 10 everybody still has to take science. You can go through Grades 11 and 12 without any science, and that's one of the things we recommend changing.

CJN: *With the importance of science in today's world, why do you think governments give it low priority for funding?*

Harari: Some governments give low priority to the funding of science for a very simple reason. What you do today in science will benefit your economy in 10, 20, 30 years. Governments look at the next election. That's all. It's as simple as that.

CJN: *You have said that science does not recognize international boundaries. What do you feel is Weizmann's contribution, and what does Weizmann expect from other countries in return?*

Harari: We have 150 foreign scientists on our campus doing research at any given time. Thirty percent of the scientific papers at the Weizmann Institute are done in collaboration with scientists from foreign countries.

Everything we do is a contribution to mankind. If we do something good about cancer research or solar energy or computers, this obviously has universal implications, and that's why we feel that this kind of an effort is perhaps too large for Israel in the sense that you cannot expect that all of it will be 100 percent funded from Israeli sources.

CJN: *I understand there is some concern about getting more women involved in the areas of science and technology. Is this an issue in Israel? What is being done about it?*

Harari: We never had a program to emphasize the participation of women, but the fact is that some of the most prominent scientists at the Institute are women. Our vice-president, Professor Ruth Arnon, is a woman.

Of the two deans of the two faculties of biology, one is a woman. Especially in biology and chemistry, many of the leading scientists are women. There are many women scientists in biology and chemistry in other universities. I think we probably have a higher number of prominent women. The only woman scientist in the National Academy of Science is the same Ruth Arnon of the Weizmann Institute.

In math and physics, it's not so. In physics, there's not a single woman on the faculty, and in math there's only one now. I don't really know why.

CJN: *What is Perach, and how did it come about?*

Harari: Perach is the most exciting thing I've ever done in my life. Perach is a government-funded program in which undergraduate university students spend at least four hours a week with a child from an underprivileged family, to help that child.

In return, the university student gets a fellowship that covers 40 percent of their tuition. It's a unique deal. You cannot drop out in the middle of the year. You have to report how many times you've done it, etc., so it is much more solid than most such programs and much more important. Today approximately 20 percent of all the undergraduates in Israel are involved in this program.

It's been going on now for 15 years, and although it has nothing to do with science, it was born at the Weizmann Institute. The number one father of that program was a man who was then a graduate student, who just came up with the idea. I was then the dean of the graduate school. He convinced me, and we got it off the ground in conjunction with the Ministry of Education. The headquarters of that program until this very day are at the Weizmann Institute, and I am the chairman of the national council for that program. The Hebrew word Perach means flower, but it is also an acronym for tutorial project.

The News in Brief

No shoot to kill

JERUSALEM — Israeli soldiers in the territories are not operating under a shoot-to-kill policy against Arab suspects, says Army Chief of General Ehud Barak.

Barak said "There is a disturbing increase in incidents involving Arabs using fire-arms in clashes with army units, or going around carrying guns and wearing masks. The soldiers are facing a greater risk than before and are looking for known suspects more intensively.

"Our men need strong nerves and a great deal of self-restraint. When one of our men shoots in violation of the open-fire orders, he is court-martialed, whatever his rank.

* * *

Bedouin woman honored

JERUSALEM — Army Chief of General staff Ehud Barak hosted 50 outstanding officers from various corps in a ceremony in advance of Independence Day.

Among the 50 is the first Bedouin woman officer, Lt. Amira Yarkoni, the daughter of Lt.-Col. Amos Yarkoni, who died several months ago. Yarkoni established the Bedouin trackers unit that provides invaluable reconnaissance services to mounted patrols.

Lt. Amira Yarkoni serves in the Education Corps, and was recognized for what her commanders called "extraordinary service and performance as an immigration absorption officer."

* * *

Holocaust survey

JERUSALEM — A survey on attitudes toward the Holocaust and Holocaust Remembrance Day released last week by a Tel Aviv-based research and polling institute found that 52 percent of the public believes a Holocaust could happen again. Forty-two percent linked the possibility to Germany, and only 1 percent said it could happen in Israel.

The survey, carried out last week among 1,000 people, found that more than 70 percent of the Israel public agrees with the policy of closing places of entertainment on Holocaust Remembrance Day. There is also a consensus in favor of continuing to commemorate the Holocaust and Remembrance Day for the Fallen on separate days. Only 17 percent said they favored combining the two days.

* * *

Israeli Arabs charged

JERUSALEM — Police have arrested 29 Israeli Arabs on suspicion of selling weapons to terrorists in the territories and other crimes.

The suspects, the majority from the Galilee region, were originally detained and questioned during police inquiries into the murder two months ago of three soldiers at their tent encampment near Kibbutz Galed.

The weapons, some of which had been stolen from the Israeli army, included a LAW anti-tank missile launcher, M-16 and Kalashnikov rifles, pistols, and a hand grenade.

Several of the suspects are accused of having helped shelter terrorists wanted by the security forces.

* * *

Herzog wants inquiry

JERUSALEM — President Chaim Herzog used the occasion of swearing in 10 new judges to urge an official inquiry into the judicial process in Israel.

Herzog said there was need for a state commission to examine "serious faults in the law-enforcement system exposed recently."

He said that in about 90 percent of arrests, the detainees are not put on trial. He cited the case of an Arab resident of Jaffa who spent a year in jail because he could not pay the $420 bail set when he was brought to court charged with a traffic violation.

* * *

Hero dies

JERUSALEM — George Mandel-Mantello, who according to some historians did the most to stop the deportation of Hungarian Jews to Auschwitz in the summer of 1944, has died in Rome at 90. He was buried in Jerusalem.

A Romanian-born international businessman, Mandel-Mantello was the first secretary of the El Salvador consulate in Geneva during World War II. In June, 1944, the first fully documented account of Auschwitz, supplied by four escaped Jews, reached him from Budapest.

* * *

Lufthansa in hot water

JERUSALEM — A propaganda war between Lufthansa and the Israel Travel Agents' Association over the marketing of discount fares climaxed last week with allegations by the agents that the German airline used anti-Semitic caricatures in a newspaper ad.

In an attempt to get its side of the story out to the public before the arrival of civil aviation officials from Bonn, Lufthansa placed a full-page announcement in the Hebrew press.

Lufthansa offices in Tel Aviv had to be evacuated on Tuesday when a bomb threat was phoned in, apparently in response to the ad. No bomb was found.

The advertisement, prepared by Israeli Jews, pictured an Israeli couple making plans for a summer holiday abroad who run into problems at their corner travel agency.

* * *

Palestinians first

JERUSALEM — Nearly half of Arab high school pupils defined their national identity as Palestinian first and then Israeli in a poll conducted on behalf of a Nazareth-based newspaper.

The survey, completed for the Kol al-Arab weekly, revealed that only 24 percent of the 1,100 pupils surveyed saw themselves as Israeli Arabs.

The question of national identity was added to a mock election conducted at five schools in northern Israel.

* * *

Pressure on Israel

JERUSALEM — Israel must immediately sign the Montreal Protocol for the protection of the ozone layer in order to prevent serious damage to local trade and indudstry, Environment Ministry director-general Uri Marinov said last week.

Sanctions against countries which have not signed the protocols go into effect Jan. 1, but the sanctions' effects might be felt as early as July or August.

One of the requirements for signing the agreement is to transfer $180,000 over three years to a special fund established by member states. The fund, which aims to reach $240 million, funnels contributions from developed countries — a category which includes Israel — to help developing countries meet the protocol's requirements.

* * *

Illegals cause concern

JERUSALEM — At leasst 10,000 Palestinians are living in Jerusalem illegally, according to official figures compiled by the security services.

But the police can do virtually nothing about the problem until the government decides what it wants done, said Jerusalem police chief Haim Albaldes.

The debate around illegal residence and construction in East Jerusalem has become heated in recent months. Right-wing forces in the Knesset and government have pushed for greater enforcement of zoning and residence statutes, and attacked the municipality for allegedly looking the other way as Arabs build illegally.

* * *

Settler wounded

JERUSALEM — A resident of the West Bank settlement of Dolev, was slightly wounded last week when his car was hit by shots fired from a passing car near Ramallah.

The man was driving with his 6-year-old son when his car came under fire. The child was not hurt.

A year ago another Dolev resident, was shot dead in an ambush. There have been several other drive-by shootings in recent months.

* * *

Teens fall short

JERUSALEM — The Israel army is rejecting an increasing proportion of men and women of conscript age, not because it has raised its standards, but because the quality of the potential intake has fallen off.

The percentage of males rejected as unsuitable at the age of 18 more than doubled between 1986 and 1991. An additional 6.1 percent of males called up in 1991 — up from 4.8 percent in 1986 — required special educational and social attention because of their low level, and were only found suited for a restricted range of functions, Goren said.

The figures concerning psychological and medical fitness among 18-year-olds did not cover new immigrants.

* * *

Statue upsets ADL

WASHINGTON — A Jewish group's leter protesting the display of a statue of Jesus on the steps of the U.S. Capitol building could trigger a review of that practice, a government lawyer said.

The Anti-Defamation League has objected to the "unambiguous sectarian religious message" conveyed by the placement of the statue.

Located near the visitors entrance to the building, the scene "gives the impression to visitors from abroad that Christianity is the officially preferred religion of the United States government," Jess Hordes, ADL's Washington representative wrote.

Canadian teenagers retrace fateful steps in March of the Living

JERUSALEM —

"The voices of 4,500 Jewish youth from all corners of the world sang together this week, burying Nazi hatred and proving that Hitler failed." These were the words of Robin Sacks, a 17-year-old Toronto student and one of 300 Canadian teens who joined 4,000 teenagers from around the world to take part in the 1992 March of the Living.

During the 1992 March of the Living, a bi-annual Holocaust educational program, Jewish teens gathered together on Holocaust Remembrance Day to march the three-kilometre distance separating Auschwitz from Birkenau, retracing the steps that hundreds of thousands of Jews and others were forced to take on the way to their annihilation.

As in past years, the Canadian contingent played a central role in the closing ceremony that was held amid the ruins of Birkenau, which was blown up by the Nazis before being liberated by the Allies in 1945.

Barbie Price of Oakville, opened the ceremony with a stirring solo violin rendition of *Es Brent* (It Burns), a melody written in 1938 by Mordechai Gebirtig predicting the tragic fate awaiting European Jewry.

Stacey Wintre of Toronto, Lori and Marnie Sugarman and Jessica Manley of Kingston, and Lisa Gamble of Kitchener, led the 4,500 strong group in a number of Holocaust melodies including *Zog Neit Kayn Mol*, the resistance song of the Vilna partisans.

In addition to visiting the Auschwitz-Birkenau complex, members of the Canadian group also travelled to the death camps of Majdanek and Treblinka. Sites of Jewish significance in Warsaw (Mila 18, Umschlagplatz, Gensher Cemetery) Cracow (Plasshov Monument, Rama Synagogue, the Ghetto Wall) and Lublin were also included in the itinerary.

During their visit to Lublin, the Canadian group held a special ceremony at the former site of Yeshivat Chachmei Lublin (now a Polish medical school), which prior to World War II, was Europe's largest and most progressive academy for the study of Talmud. After an introduction by Rabbi David Aronson of Toronto, a student from each Canadian community spoke on a specific theme found in the Talmud: Jory Simkin of Vancouver spoke on the theme of justice; Amy Bondar and Stacy Shaikin of Calgary spoke on the theme of compassion; Benjamin Gonshor of Montreal spoke on brotherly love; Jonathan Burns of Oshawa spoke on honesty; and Rebekah Sherman of P.E.I. spoke on universalism.

The session concluded with Leelah Koschitzky and Jay Wohlgelernter of Toronto speaking on the theme of consolation and the entire Canadian group spilling out onto the steps and adjoining courtyard of the former Yeshiva, singing *Am Yisrael Chai* ("The People of Israel Live").

The dramatic impact that the March of the Living has thus far had on its participants is evidenced by the comments that some of the Toronto teens wrote on their flight from Warsaw to Tel Aviv:

"We saw the horrors and we shed tears. We walked through the death camps in disbelief. How? Why? These were questions I often asked, but unfortunately I don't feel right attempting to explain and describe the unimaginable right now — but I will . . . I know I have to . . ." Julie Fass.

"The things that I have seen today I cannot describe in words. Rooms full of hair, shoes, brushes and eyeglasses. I cried when I saw the eyeglasses because it became apparent that for each pair, there belonged two eyes . . . two eyes that looked to me to remember them, their pain, their suffering and their tears." Randee Clayman.

"I close my eyes and feel the warmth of the sun, but I can't close my ears to the cries of pain. And I will never close my mind to the whispers of remembrance." Dana Bookman.

"I never felt so many different emotions in one week and so many questions. How . . . Why? I knew I didn't have the answers. I felt despair, pain, confusion, suffocation . . . I felt hope, faith, pride and unity." Heidi Friedman.

"I just left the dead behind to celebrate the living." Elana Langer.

Following their visit to Poland, the Canadian group is scheduled to move onto Israel for the balance of the program where they will be taking part in Yom Ha'atzmaut activities.

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פון דוד קוניגיס (מאָנטרעאַל)

עס איז גוט באַקאַנט, ווי אַזוי אַלערלי אַנטיסעמיטן קוקן אויף אונדז יידן: איז עס אַן אַרעמער אַנטיסעמיט, זיינען ביי אים אַלע יידן רייך ווי ראָטשילד; ביי אַ רייכן אַנטיסעמיט זיינען אַלע יידן שמוציקע שלעפערס; ביי אַ רעליגיעזן אַנטיסעמיט זיינען אַלע יידן אומגלויביקער אַטעאיסטן; און אויב ער איז אַן אומגלויביקער אַנטיסעמיט, זיינען ביי אים אַלע יידן רעליגיעזע פאַנאַטיקער.

אָט האָט מרדכי ריטשלער, דער פּראָמינענטער און טאַלאַנטירטער קאַנאַדער שרייבער, אַרויסגעגעבן אַ ניי בוך: „אָ קאַנאַדע! אָ קוויבעק!״. אין וועלכן ער דערמאָנט, אַז קוויבעק האָט אַ לאַנגע געשיכטע פון אָפענעם אַנטיסעמיטיזם, און פון אַ סך אָפענע און פאַרשטעלטע אַנטיסעמיטן, ווי דער טרויעריק באַקאַנטער פאַשיסט אַדריען אַרקאַנד, וועלכער האָט אָנגעפירט מיט אַן אָפן־פאַשיסטישער און אַנטיסעמיטישער באַוועגונג אין די דרייסיקער יאָרן; און דער גלח ליאָנעל גרו, וועלכער האָט אָפן פאַרשפרייט זיין אַנטיסעמיטישן סם אין דער קירכע און איבער דער גאַנצער פראָווינץ.

מיט זיין בוך האָט ריטשלער ספעציעל אויפגערעגט אָנהענגער פון דער „פּי.קיו״, די פאַרטיי, וואָס שטייט אין שפּיץ פון דער פראַנצויזיש־קוויבעקער אומאָפּהענגיקייט באַוועגונג, וואָס זוכט אָפּצורייסן אונדזער פראָווינץ קוויבעק און ווערן אַן אומאָפּהענגיקע מדינה.

אין זיין בוך וויזט ריטשלער אויך אָן, אַז מיט אַרום 50 יאָר צוריק זיינען די לייט־אַרטיקלען אין דער באַוווסטער פראַנצויזישער צייטונג „לע דעווואָר״ געווען ענלעך צו די לייט־אַרטיקלען אין דער היטלעריסטישער צייטונג „דער שטורמער״. נאַטירלעך, אַז די איצטיקע אַרויסגעבער און רעדאַקטאָרן פון אָט־דער צייטונג זיינען געווארן דערצאָרנט און אויף אַ שאַרפן אופן פאַרדאַמט ריטשלער׳ן און זיין בוך. און אפילו אויך זיינע פריערדיקע ווערק. (אגב, דאַרף מען צוגעבן, אַז די איצטיקע „לע דעווואָר״ איז אינגאַנצן אַנדערש ווי זי איז געווען אַמאָל. די צייטונג ווערט באַטראַכט ווי דער איינפלוסרייכסטער אָרגאַן פון דער קוויבעקער אינטעליגענץ). ווי עס ווייזט אויס, איז די רעדאַקטאָרן ספּעציעל נישט געפעלן געווארן, וואָס ריטשלער האָט זיך בלויז אָפּגעשטעלט אויף פּראַנצויזישע אַנטיסעמיטן און ניט דערמאָנט מיט קיין איין וואָרט די ענגליש־רעדנדיקע און אַנדערע אַנטיסעמיטן איבערן לאַנד. מיט אָט־דער טענה, מוז מען צוגעבן, אַז זיי זיינען געווען. עס פעלן נישט אויס קיין אַנטיסעמיטן איבערן גאַנצן לאַנד, פון מזרח ביז מערב, שוין אָפּגערעדט וועגן אַזעלכע פאַשיסטן ווי זונדעל, קיגסטראַ, קריסטי און אַ סך אַנדערע. עס קען זיין, אַז אפשר האָט מרדכי ריטשלער אַ ביסל איבערגעטריבן, אין זיין פאַרגלייכן „לע דעווואָר״ צום היטלעריסטישן „דער שטורמער״. אָבער ער האָט אַנגעוויזן אויף אַ סך ערנסטע פּראָבלעמען אין קוויבעק און איבערן לאַנד, און באַזונדערס אויף דער געפאַר פון וואַקסנדיקן אַנטיסעמיטיזם.

ס׳איז שוין צייט, אַז מיר יידן זאָלן זיך נישט דאַרפן פאַרנטפערן אויף אונדזער לעבנס־שטייגער און נישט דאַרפן געפינען קיין באַרעכטיקונג פאַר אונדזער שטרעבן צו אַ בעסערער און שענערער וועלט, אַ וועלט פון שלום און פרייהייט פאַר אַלעמען.

אין די לעצטע יאָרן איז די געפאַר פון אַנטיסעמיטיזם געוואָרן שאַרפער איבער דער גאַנצער וועלט. דערפאַר דאַרפן מיר זיין מער וואַכזאַם און באַקעמפן און פאַרניכטן אָט די גיפטיקע שלאַנג, ווי נאָר זי באַווייזט זיך און פאַרשפרייט איר סם.

KEEPING THE CITY CLEAN

Ora, born in Israel to Vietnamese parents, helps her school friends to tidy up the Neve Golan district of Tel Aviv as part of a Pesach clean-up campaign. [IPPA photo]

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Gorbachev address attacks anti-Semitism

NEW YORK —

Mikhail S. Gorbachev, former president of the Soviet Union, will deliver a major address condemning anti-Semitism at a Yeshiva University banquet in his honor on behalf of the University's Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law on Wednesday, May 13, at 6 p.m. at the Pierre Hotel in Manhattan.

Gorbachev will be presented with the first Benjamin N. Cardozo Democracy Award at the banquet by Dr. Norman Lamm, president of Yeshiva University.

Mikhail Gorbachev

Charles Koppelman, chairman and chief executive officer of EMI Records Group North America, will also be honored at the black-tie event. Koppelman will receive the first Benjamin N. Cardozo Distinguished Achievement Award.

Gorbachev is making only a handful of appearances, including a dinner at the White House, during his two-week visit to the United States. His address at the Yeshiva University banquet is his only scheduled appearance before a Jewish organization or institution.

"In the annals of the 20th century, it will be indelibly described that Mikhail Gorbachev changed the history of the world," said Lamm.

"He ended more than 70 years of Communist despotism in the former Soviet Union, freed Eastern Europe, brought down the Berlin Wall, terminated the seemingly endless Cold War, and removed the spectre of a nuclear holocaust from mankind's future," Lamm said. "Among the tens of millions of people he liberated, he helped his country's Jews leave by the hundreds of thousands for Israel."

Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law, established in 1976, is one of 16 undergraduate, graduate, and professional schools and affiliates comprising Yeshiva University.

Syrian announcement seen as cruel hoax

By
RON CSILLAG

TORONTO —

Syria's recent announcement that it has loosened travel restrictions for the country's 4,200 Jews is little more than a cruel hoax, says Judy Feld Carr, head of the National Task Force For Syrian Jews.

The move by Damascus was "the public relations coup of the year" because it boosted Syria's stature with the United States, Carr told *The CJN*, but the announcement means Jews still cannot emigrate.

"Without lifting a finger, the Syrians got what they wanted," a frustrated Carr said.

Late last month, the U.S. State Department announced that Damascus would ease travel restrictions for Jews. A few days later, Syrian officials confirmed that, but stressed that Jews are not free to emigrate.

The new relaxed rules — still unconfirmed, according to Carr — will do away with the bond Jews had to post prior to travelling outside Syria and the requirement that at least one family member remain behind.

The Syrians added that from now on, Jews would be able to sell their possessions and travel anywhere with a visa, except to Israel.

But those provisions are a catch-22, Carr said.

"If a Jew sells his possessions, that tells the Syrians he wants to leave for good. And Jews still can't leave."

Neither can money that is in Jewish hands, Carr added.

Carr said two Jews applied for a visa last week, and were turned down for no reason.

As for the relaxed travel restrictions, Carr said Jews have always been able to go to other countries on visits, albeit with difficulty.

"If they cannot emigrate, there's no discussion. Who cares if they can travel to Brooklyn?"

Carr fears if limited emigration is allowed one day, Syrian authorities would embark on a campaign to split families, the way the Soviets did in the '70s and early '80s.

The situation in Syria's three Jewish communities is "horrible. They don't know what to do."

Canadian Jewish Congress greeted the news with cautious optimism.

B'nai Brith Canada called on Damascus to match its words with concrete actions.

"There's too much euphoria here," said Michael Schelew, national chairman of BBC's Syrian Jewry committee. "The Syrians have made promises before and haven't kept them."

Rudolph bar upheld

[Cont'd. from page 5]

and destruction amongst the civilian populations" of their home countries, was a war crime, the court stated.

The judgment was quickly praised by B'nai Brith Canada, which had been an intervener in the case and which argued that war crimes did exist in law during World War II.

"The decision upholds the integrity of our immmigration system as an effective means of blocking alleged Nazi war criminals from entering Canada," said lawyer Marvin Kurz, who represented B'nai Brith in court.

Admitting Rudolph to Canada would have been a slap in the face to Holocaust survivors and Canadian veterans who fought Nazism, Kurz added.

Rudolph arrived in Canada on July 1, 1990, and was detained by immigration authorities. Under terms of a 1983 agreement with the U.S. Justice Department, he was barred from entering that country.

Jewish groups, including B'nai Brith and Canadian Jewish Congress, interpreted his high-profile visit to Canada as a public relations ploy designed to help clear his name in the United States.

Despite his decision to bar Rudolph from Canada, adjudicator William Willoughby accepted Rudolph's testimony completely, saying he saw no reason to doubt the former Nazi party member's statement that he did not know of the party's racial policies.

Who says Canada is the best country in the world?

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The Human Development Report (1992) is published by the United Nations Development Programme. The Human Development Index (HDI) used in this report is based on an evaluation of the life expectancy, education levels and purchasing power in 160 countries.

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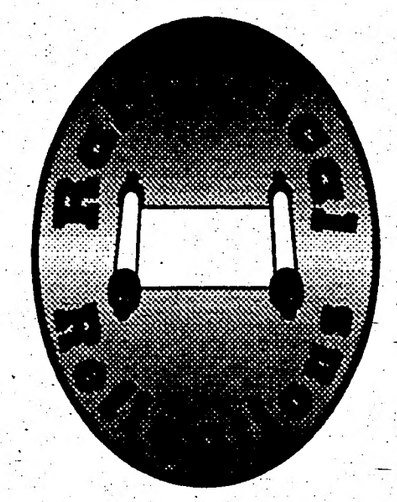

By
RABBI IRWIN ZEPLOWITZ

Ours is an age of a hidden God. Jews, especially, seem unable to hear or feel God. According to polls, Jews are only two-thirds as likely as non-Jews to say they are "sometimes very conscious of God's presence."

But we don't need a poll to confirm the obvious. Many have noted a lack of spirituality in much of contemporary Jewish life. Most Jews that I've spoken to about listening for or talking to God feel awkward, even foolish, making the attempt. It seems we've entered a new kind of Victorian Age. Whereas a hundred years ago no one spoke about sex, but God was pervasive, today everyone speaks about sex, but no one talks about God.

One of the problems, I believe, with so many modern Jews is that they want God to make sense in a non-Jewish way. What do I mean? Our society (and Western civilization as a whole) has inherited a way of thinking which began in ancient Greece. Hellenistic logic was based on a system of absolutes. If something is X, it cannot be Y. If I am not close to you, according to this kind of logic, I must be far away. If God is just, then God cannot be loving. And so on.

Judaism has, at various periods, been strongly influenced by Hellenistic thought. Rambam (also called Maimonides) represents the epitome of the influence of Greek logic in Judaism. His *Guide for the Perplexed*, written to a pupil unsure about Jewish faith in light of philosophy, rests in the assumption that Judaism and Greek rationality are in perfect agreement.

Liberal Judaism, founded in the Enlightenment belief in the power of human reason, also has a strong belief in this absolutist logic. Everything has to "make sense." If not, it must be discarded. The Reform Siddur clearly shows the influence of this. Rather than speaking of a Messiah (which implies a personal savior few liberal Jews accept), we pray for Redemption (a messianic age). Many liberal Jews reject the traditional belief in a resurrection of the dead, so in its place comes a less controversial God who "returns life to all things."

There is much to commend such concern with logic. I, for one, would not like to go to an age when Judaism was so filled with demons, superstitions and bubbe meises that it was more fear and guilt, than joy and love which motivated Jews to live fulfilling Jewish lives. Yet there is an arrogance in thinking that this kind of logic is the only, or even the best, way of reasoning.

The case can be made that much more representative of Jewish logic is that shown in the Talmud. There we see a system which says, "If something is X, it may also be Y." Thus the resolution to an argument given by Tevye in *Fiddler on the Roof*. "You're right," he says to one. "And," turning to the second you're right too. "How," someone asks, "Can they both be right?" After a moment's thought he replies, "You know, you're right, too."

With respect to God, this Jewish logic is well-known. On Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur we appeal to Avinu Malkeinu, our Father, our King. Using absolutist, Greek logic, this makes no sense. How can God be an all-powerful ruler, yet at the same time be a loving parent?

Jewish logic, I would argue, is closer to the emotional truth. At times I sense God as a parent — imminent, protective, supportive through troubles; at other times God is Creator of the whole universe, transcendent, concerned with the "big picture," but distant from me and my needs. Rabbinic tradition calls God Ein Sof, Without Limit, yet then has the chutzpah to limit the limitless by describing what God does, what God says and what God expects of us.

Judaism is less concerned with what God is than how God expects us to act. Living our life ethically, whether our belief is certain or not, is truer to the Jewish model. Still, without some sense of God's presence, I wonder why one would lead an ethical life and even more, how such a life is grounded in anything permanent or universal. Even in questioning and doubt, even in accepting the paradox of the Divine, then, our traditions accepted that God is present.

But, of course, that still leaves a major hurdle for many Jews to jump. No matter how much we speak *about* God, it is not the same thing as speaking *to* God. And without that, the Eternal still seems hidden behind a veil.

In asking people what they find to be the most moving moment of communal prayer, the majority with whom I've spoken have answered "the times we pray silently."

Perhaps it is because the best way of establishing a relationship is one-on-one.

That is why, quite frankly, I like a long silence during our silent meditations. Too often in prayer I find that not enough time is given to this quiet moment. Indeed, I have often fantasized about asking the congregation to pray silently, then sitting down for 5 minutes (or longer). I can only imagine the consternation. After 30 seconds people fidget. After a minute people would think something is wrong. At three minutes, one of the doctors would probably come up to check and make sure I still had a pulse. Rabbi Larry Kushner once quipped, "Talking to God is long distance, so it makes sense that it takes awhile to connect. The problem with most silent prayer is that just as I get through, the line gets disconnected."

The reality of of today is that it is not so much God who is hidden, but we who hide from God. Talking to God seems so strange, so kooky. And so we wear masks, even with our best friends, spouses, children, lest they suspect that God really is important to us. The sad part is that in masquerading, we can no longer feel the Devine Presence. In hiding ourselves we hide from God and what we gain from that relationship.

If our relationship with God is truly a game of hide-and-seek, what can we do to find God? Can we, as sophisticated as we think we are, really talk to God? For me, coming close to God came through, of all things, bread. A number of years ago (I can't even remember exactly when anymore) I began saying Hamotzi, the blessing for bread (symbol of food in general), before I ate. I said it at home, at restaurants, when I was invited out. Nothing changed my life more than that. Suddenly, God was present on a daily (in fact, too many times more than once daily) basis.

Jewish ritual and prayer is replete with ways of talking to God. In the morning when we say a prayer for the first breath we take, or with a prayer said for health (a blessing felt most powerfully when you don't have it), or saying the Shma before bed or a journey (I say it with particular feeling every time I'm in a plane ready to take off), or engaging in regular prayer (because, no matter how much you may want to make the connection, it isn't always possible to get through).

Once, the grandson of the 18th century Chassid, Rabbi Baruch, was playing hide-and-seek with another boy. He hid himself so well that his friend could not find him, gave up the game and went home. Rabbi Baruch's little grandson finally came out from his hiding place and realized that his companion had abandoned him. Weeping, he came to his grandfather to complain of his faithless friend. Rabbi Baruch's eyes, too, filled with tears and he said, "God says the same thing: I hide, but no one want to seek Me!"

God is sometimes hidden. But if so, it may well be that it is because we hide from God. Purim is over. It's time to hear the Voice and answer back, as tentatively as the first sound we make may be.

Rabbi Irwin Zeplowitz is the rabbi of Temple Sholom in Hamilton.

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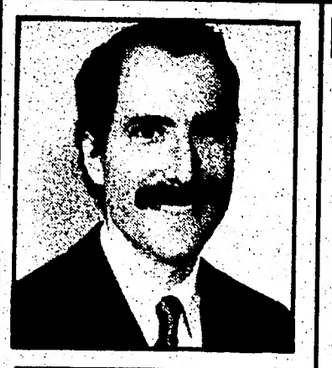
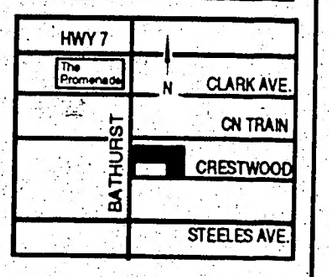

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Front Line

Israeli political parties battle it out for precious votes

ANALYSIS

By
YESHAYAHU ANUG

When confronting elections, incumbents generally hold the better cards. They are the government. They can act during the campaign while opposition can only react. They administer the instruments of power and a doubtful record not always loses power. If they act cleverly, their chances to survive an electoral test, even in adverse conditions, are considerable.

It happened in Britain, where the Conservatives were returned despite their poor record, because the public had got used to them and because Labor did not manage to convince that it had better answers to the country's problems. Only where discontent with incumbents becomes widespread do oppositions get a better chance. It happened — although not in general elections — in Italy, France and Germany.

During the last few months, when Israelis discovered how tricky the winter can be, the weather report was the most attractive item of any news program. Now that spring is returning, national curiosity moves very slowly and not as passionately to the elections. More than 50 party lists may this time beg for public support, but one can easily write off 40, which are to be wiped out on election day or even not survive till then.

To send one single member to the Knesset, a list needs over 40,000 votes. Of the remaining lists, only three political structures will matter: Likud and the more extreme rightists, Labor with political preferences will depend on the state of the coalition market after the elections.

Because of the issues now confronting this country, the elections in June will be one of the most crucial tests in its history — a choice between two different approaches to Israel's future. But it is unlikely that the two major parties will play an honest card game and tell the public clearly what they intend to do if victorious. The issues are far too complex and delicate and solutions are anything but simple. To avoid an open fight on issues, the parties have hired advertising agencies and are likely to submit to their marketing suggestions. Experts in salesmanship will probably find it easier to denigrate the competitors' product than to expand on their own clients' achievements.

Yeshayahu Anug

And above all, it could well become a race in personal defamation, with particular reference to skeletons, which either exist or never did, in the various cupboards. But one must wait and see if the pyrotechnics of the campaign which promises to be rude, will blur the public's vision of the vital issues at stake. Probably not.

The majority of voters everywhere care more about quality of life, such as employment, wages, health, education, than about complex foreign and security issues. But in Israel the two categories are clearly linked and the major parties will be forced to address them as one, each trying to persuade the public that its particular formula for dealing with them best is the one which should be trusted.

Likud will want to convince its traditional electorate and the hundreds of thousands of new voters, that its policies, which put settlement- and infrastructure-building in the territories above everything else, were right and vital. That these policies will continue to be in the best national interest and that they can co-exist with a healthy economy, with successful immigrant absorption and with a promising peace process.

Furthermore, that Israel's international position, and most specifically its relations with the United States, has not been really harmed by these policies. Likud leaders will do their utmost to warn the public not to trust their Labor opponents' position on settlements and on the peace process and will tell their discontented faithful, that Labor's pledged readiness for territorial compromise is tantamount to national betrayal.

This last point will be very forcefully argued to stem the loss of votes to the more extreme rightist parties, for whom Likud's policies vis-a-vis the Arabs and the Americans were not as tough as they should be.

Labor will attack Likud's political priorities, its financial costs and accuse the government of having brought about economic stagnation, of having reached the highest rate of unemployment in Israel's history, of being fully responsible for the practical halt in immigration from the former Soviet Union, of having stalled the peace process and ruined Israeli-American relations. These messages should not be too difficult to convey, but as Labor seeks to win over discontented Likud voters, it cannot overstate its peace policies, which look suspicious to these voters.

And if this is not enough, Labor also hopes to retain and even increase the support of voters on the moderate left, who regard an active peace process with Palestinians as the most urgent national priority and Labor's present stand on thse issues as far too ambiguous. Present polls show a clear advantage of Labor over Likud, but also that Labor together and its probable affiliates will obtain less Knesset seats than Likud with its associates. How to plan and carry on a campaign with so many incoherences, will be Labor's major headache during the next weeks.

Likud will basically say that the party should be trusted, that the country is doing exceedingly well under its government and that Labor will sell out to the enemies.

Labor will argue that only Rabin can be trusted to bring peace, employment and stability and that Likud has ruined the country and must go. The two major parties are well aware that their fate will in no small measure be affected by the choices made by the inexperienced masses of new immigrants from the former Soviet Union, whose political preferences are difficult to assess. They constitute close to 10 precent of the electorate and 60 percent of them are unemployed, bitter and confused.

For now it's pollsters' season and they claim that Likud is not doing well and that Labor is doing better. In Britain they were wrong in April and in Israel they could be right or wrong in June. However it ends, both parties will fight each other ferociously for six weeks and then — so most observers feel — they'll most likely have to form a joint government under the one leader whose party will have done better than the other.

HUMOR

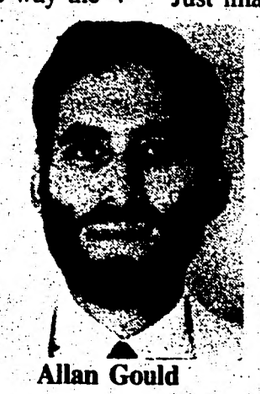
Encyclopedia always helped in getting straight As

By
ALLAN GOULD

I recently came across a sweet anecdote about the lonely, insecure fellow who wasn't sure how to act with women. So he went to the library and took out a book called *How to Hug*. When he got home and started reading it, he was crushed to discover that it was the eighth volume of an encyclopedia.

Which leads me to the topic of today's d'var: encyclopedias. But not just any encyclopedias. No, I'm referring to the ones which magically appear in your neighborhood supermarket every few years. You know which ones I mean: *The New Funk & Wagnalls Encyclopedia*, which every home just has to have, if you don't want your kids to end up on welfare or in jail. (So how did Bubba and Zeyda manage so well?)

As most of you probably recall, the way the marketing geniuses grab your interest is inspired: The first volume of the two dozen (or so) in the set, which in this latest incarnation is volume 1: A to *American Elk*, costs 9¢. Then, should you wish to go beyond AMERICAN ELK and learn a bit about BEARS, Volume 2 will cost you $1.99 (or so), and all the rest will run around $2.99.



Allan Gould

Now, I am merely *one* middle-aged Jewish writer who lives in Toronto (and grew up in Detroit), so this is *not* particularly scientific, but I would wager my next baby bonus cheque on this: Am I the *only* person in North America who grew up in a home with five VOLUME ONEs from five different sets of encyclopedias (which went the supermarket-marketing route)? I doubt it.

Indeed, I now sit with Volume 1 (yes, A to AMERICAN ELK) of *Funk & Wagnalls New Encyclopedia* on my lap, which I recently bought (for 9¢) as a kind of Kaddish for my parents, who also went the first-volume route. And I think back at how difficult it was for me, as a student in grade school:

Teacher: All right, children. I'd like to hear what you recall learning about the characteristics of the mountain lion. Allan?

Yours truly: Uh, maybe we could discuss the Aardvark?

And this wasn't just in science, either. My rather limited expertise (thanks to five different volume ones) seemed to curse me in every *other* subject, too. Geography, for instance.

Teacher: Okay — Allan! Tell the class what is the largest state in the union, would you?

Moi: Akron? Alabama? Alaska? Albania? Alberta!! — that's it! Uh, Alexandria? Algeria is pretty big, ya know!

See what I mean? It's amazing that I ever got out of grade school. I guess it's because I did so well in Algebra.

All these painful reminiscences made me realize what a blessing it was that the *Encyclopedia Judaica* did not go the same route. True, Volume I is the index, and even 9 cents seems a bit steep for something like that. But just imagine if tens of thousands of Jewish homes had only Volume 2 (A-ANG), but just never got any further, due to the towering cost of later volumes.

Just imagine.

Rabbi: It's your bat mitzvah next week, Avraham (that's me); let's try a little oral quiz?

Avraham: Sure, Rabbi Aaronson. (Great name, eh?)

Rabbi: Okay, now. Who was the first man?

Avraham: (with great pride; my mom did shell out 9¢ for that precious volume of the *Encyclopedia Judaica*, right?) That must have been Adam, Rabbi.

Rabbi: Good for you. And his wife was . . .

Avraham: Agrippa?

Rabbi: No!! Avraham, where did that first couple live?

Avraham: Aberdeen? Abu Ghosh? Acre? Afghanistan? Africa? Aleppo? Algiers? Alsace? America? Amsterdam?

Rabbi: Let me give you a hint. They lived in the Garden of . . .

Avraham: Oh, that's easy. The Garden of Eden.

Rabbi: Terrible. You must know who the first Jew was!

Avraham: Oh, that's easy! Abraham!

Rabbi: Fine. And his wife?

Avraham: Akiva? Aliyah? Angel? Well, they did have problems with Avimelech, you know.

Rabbi: Yes, I know. Let's try an easy one. Who led the Jews out of ancient Egypt?

Avraham: Aaron? I mean, Aaron did do the talking for whoever it was.

Rabbi: Avraham, I'm surprised at you. Let's look at more recent history. Who was the greatest modern Zionist leader?

Avraham: (hopeful) Ahad Ha-Am?

Rabbi: Well, that's debatable. Look, Avraham, I think you have NOT been studying very much.

Avraham: But that's not so, Rabbi Aaronson! You can ask me about ANYTHING! Just ask me about Aggadah, or Agunah, or Akedah, or Aliyah, or the Amalekites, or the Amidash, or Amulets, or . . .

Rabbi: Sorry Avraham. You don't choose the questions; the teacher does. I'm afraid I'll have to give you a Daled on this exam.

Avraham: I'm not familiar with that letter, Rabbi. I only know about Aleph. What does Daled mean?

You see? I thank heaven every day that my mother and father never bought Jewish encyclopedias the way they bought secular ones. In the meantime, if any readers out there have any questions about Absolute Zero, Acid Rain or Alligators, my son and daughter are at your service. Ditto for Agriculture, Allergies, the Amazon.

*Allan Gould is the author of 16 books, including the humorous **Unorthodox Book of Jewish Records and Lists**, and an anthology of some 300 gentile essays, comments and speeches through history, **What Did They Think of the Jews?** He hopes to someday write about Abstract Art, Accounting, and Airplanes.*

MOSCOW MAYOR AT MOCK SEDER

Tel Aviv Mayor Shlomo Lahat (left) explains to Moscow Mayor Gavril Popov the significance of matzah (unleavened bread) for Pesach. [IPPA photo]

Editorial/Letters

The Canadian Jewish news

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Yom Ha'atzmaut

Forty-four years ago at 4:30 p.m. Sabbath eve, the 5th day of Iyar, 5708, to the People's Council assembled in the Tel Aviv Museum, David Ben-Gurion proclaimed the establishment of the State of Israel.

In other parts of the country, battles were being joined and war was being waged. The Jewish Quarter of the Old City was cut off and besieged by the Arab Legion. Only one month earlier, a medical convoy of 77 doctors, nurses and teachers had been murdered on their way to the Hadassah Hospital on Mount Scopus.

But the pre-Sabbath moment in the museum was transcendent.

Ben-Gurion stood at the dais, flanked by members of his provisional government. Behind him, one on each side, draped across the wall, were the flags of the nascent state. Above him hung the portrait of Theodore Herzl, his coal-black eyes steadfastly cast upon a dreamy Zionist horizon.

In his left hand Ben-Gurion tightly clutched the paper from which he read in firm and resolute voice, the Declaration of the Establishment of the State of Israel.

"Eretz Israel was the birthplace of the Jewish people. Here their spiritual, religious and political identity was shaped. Here they first attained to statehood, created cultural values of national and universal significance and gave the world the eternal Book of Books."

With these opening words, Ben-Gurion resumed the Jewish people's dialogue with their prophets and kings and sages, interrupted some 2,000 years earlier, and he signalled to the world the return of his people into self-governing, sovereign history.

It is a history in which we are all privileged to stand and in which we are all summoned to act. That call is as urgent today as it was 44 years ago. We find its echo in the last words of the declaration.

"We appeal to the Jewish people throughout the diaspora to rally round the Jews of Eretz Israel in the tasks of immigration and up building and to stand by them in the great struggle for the realization of the age-old dream — the redemption of Israel."

At the conclusion of the brief ceremony in the museum, Rabbi Yehuda Leib Hacohen Fishman pronounced the traditional blessing of gratitude. "Blessed art thou, O Lord, King of the Universe, who has kept us, sustained us and brought us to this day."

Today we repeat the same blessing.

Changing travel habits

The fall of communism and the democratization of eastern Europe is having a profound effect on the travel habits of North American Jews.

The *Los Angeles Times* (April 19) reports that there has been an unprecedented surge of interest among Jewish tourists in European travel as the number of organized tours and excursions multiply each summer.

The renewed interest in eastern Europe is also reflected in a number of travel books recently published which rehearse the high points of Jewish history in Central and Eastern Europe.

As Christopher Reynolds notes, however, it is not only that area of the world that is attracting Jewish travellers. Brazil, South Africa and Australia are also offering special packages for Jews wishing to acquaint themselves with the Jewish past and present in those countries.

There is even a Jewish Heritage tour to Japan led by the former rabbi of the Tokyo Jewish community. This tour will feature a visit to the Jewish cemetery in Yokahama and a well in Kyoto known as "the well of Israel."

Among the most interesting venues for Jewish travel are those offered by Spain and Turkey. Spain is commemorating the 500th anniversary of Columbus' discovery of America and the expulsion of the Jews (for which the Spanish king has done a mea culpa by appearing recently in a Madrid synagogue) while Turkey is advertising its admission of Jews into its country on the same 500th anniversary.

The bulk of Jewish tourism from North America is still directed, however, at eastern Europe and Israel. It is, of course, a special kind of tourism, distant from the hedonism of conventional tourism.

It is in the former communist countries that most North American Jews can identify their roots. It is not accidental, Reynolds observes, that the increase in travel to eastern Europe has been accompanied by an augmented interest in genealogy among Jews.

Ruth Gruber, whose book *Jewish Heritage Travel — A Guide To Central and Eastern Europe* (Wiley) was published in February, makes the point that Jewish travellers should try to "go beyond the martyrdom tours" that concentrate on Holocaust atrocity sites.

Visiting eastern Europe should also be an opportunity for Jews to re-acquaint themselves with the richness of Jewish cultural and religious life that flourished before World War II.

SHOWING THE FLAG

Israeli youngsters celebrate Yom Ha'atzmaut with a patriotic showing of Israel's national flag.

Letters to the Editor

DISSENT IS HEALTHY

CJN columnist Ruth Wisse has to deal with the world as it is, not as she would like it to be. She would like the State of Israel to conducts its policies, especially vis-a-vis Palestinian self-determination, without pressure from the international community, the United States — and particularly, the "do-gooder" Diaspora Jews, who, she says, subvert Israeli democracy *(CJN*, April 16).

Israelis alone can decide their future, Wisse says. And she's right. Only Israelis can make the decisions affecting their future security. Nevertheless, when those decisions run contrary to the opinions of the international community, the United States and many Diaspora Jewish leaders and organizations, there will be genuine disagreement — and given the fact that we live in a world of instant and global comunication — that disagreement will be very open. There's no way to keep those disagreements private — or "within the family."

Israeli leaders can no more sustain censorship over the views of Diaspora Jews than they can over their Israeli citizens. We are much too involved with one another emotionally and financially. It's not in our history or our traditions to stifle dissent. Some would even argue that open argument is a sign of health rather than "subversion" as Wisse would argue.

Beverley Stern
Toronto

* * *

LE DEVOIR'S RECORD

Following the controversy about Mordecai Richler's last book, I decided to have a look at my files on *Le Devoir*. Here are a few examples of what *Le Devoir* writes:

- The last title of a series of articles on Israel by Michel Vastel is: "Libérer l'État hébreu de sa "maladie juive" (June 17, 1981);
- Repeated advertising for a book with a picture equating a Star of David with a swastika;
- An op-ed from Karim Jbeili (June 1, 1983) with the following sentence: "action intestine d'un des désirs israéliens les plus fondamentaux: un désir génocidaire" (internal action of one of the most fundamental pulsions of Israelis: to commit genocide);
- An editorial by Jean Claude Leclerc (April 4, 1984) condemning Mulroney for supporting the right to emigrate for Soviet Jews — as far as I know, no other daily, except perhaps communist ones, has published such an editorial condoning the Gulag;
- An editorial by none other than Lise Bissonnette (Feb. 18, 1982) already asking Quebec Jews to condemn the authors of an article about the Quebec Jewish community published in the *Jerusalem Post*, an article she disapproved of. Obligingly Canadian Jewish Congress followed the order.

One does not have to be an admirer of Mordecai Richler to find Canadian Jewish Congress executive director Michael Crelinson's statement "since the 1950s, *Le Devoir* has been at the forefront for the struggle of human rights and freedoms in Quebec" rather lame.

Prof. Julien Bauer
University of Quebec
Montreal

* * *

WAGNER'S RECORD

May I beg to differ with Klaus Hermann *(CJN*, April 23) protesting against and/or are not prepared to enjoy Wagner's music fall into a "form of cultural barbarism." I believe that the opposite might be true, using Mr. Hermann's formula.

The great German writer Thomas Mann looked at Wagner retrospectively and wrote during Third Reich: ". . . there is much Hitler in Wagner . . . manifest Nazism."

Admittedly, Wagner's best friends and promoters were Jews. Mr. Klaus is in good company. Giacomo Meyerbeer helped him to more progress in his early years, Angelo Neuman, a Praguee Jew, greatly advanced the composer's fame and fortune.

However, Wagner in most of the first part of *"Das Judentum in der Music"* (Jewry in Music — Bayreuth, 1850) is concerned with denying Jews any creative spirit. While it seems to exist in certain individuals, in the case of H. Heine, Wagner dismisses him as, at best, a clever imitator; at worst, he was "the conscience of Judaism, just as Judaism is the defaming conscience of our modern civilization."

What is most intriguing about this scuttilous attack is the kind of Jew Wagner assails. In the first part the author repeats almost every cliché that remains the stock in trade of such bigotry. Everything about these Jews is so obviously repulsive, that they could not possibly pose a problem to Christian peoples who, according to Wagner, instinctively hate them.

Wagner attacks not the traditional Jew who remains faithful to his own tradition, but the so-called assimilated Jews who simultaneously mocks his own people and tries to ingratiate himself with the host nation. The assimilating Jew described by Wagner is neither fish nor fowl, neither fully Jewish nor gentile, a creature whose precarious state and lack of rootedness represents a threat to the healthy Volksgemeinschaft.

Wagner's admirers today prefer by and large to ignore or deny his blatant anti-Semitism and disdain for the Jews in order to salvage the undeniable greatness of his musical genius. In the realm of esthetics, it seems there exists an intellectual luxury.

Baruch Cohen
Montreal

* * *

SELIG BRODETSKY

Tova Diamond nee Broditsky need not look very far to find a distinguished bearer of her father's name: the late Selig Brodetzky (I refer to Fred Catzman's column in the current Passover edition). True, the name is slightly altered in the English spelling but this is the fate of many names stemming from Eastern Europe.

Brodetzky (1888-1954), who was born in the Ukraine, was brought to England at the age of 5; he grew up to be a noted mathematician and a lifelong Zionist. In 1939 he was elected president of the British Board of Jewish Deputies and guided it through the crucial years of World War II. He went on to become president of the Hebrew University.

Ben Kayfetz
Toronto

* * *

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures.

Opinion

Columnists can blend many themes

By
J. B. SALSBERG

The life of a columnist, I concluded long ago, is not a happy lot. To the onlooker (the reader that is), it may appear to be an ideal position in the realm of journalism. But as the old saying has it: it ain't necessarily so.

True that the columnist has the freedom to choose his topics; but as every regular practitioner of this trade also knows there are such things as editors who delight in torturing the conceited columnists (and all columnists are notoriously conceited) by making (they call it suggesting) occasional changes in the submitted columnist's manuscripts. Nevertheless, it is true that a regular columnist has the exceptional freedom to pontificate on most subjects.

So, you may say, that means a "columnist" is the freeest of the commentators. But that assumption would only be partially true. The columnist who lacks the "feel" for what his readers are interested in would very soon find himself looking for another job . . .

But in my personal experience the greatest problem for a regular columnist is to decide what not to write about. His writing pouch is always filled with clippings, notes, memos, etc. for the writing of future columns. His agony is making the choices. In my case there is never a shortage of topics to display my wisdom.

J.B. Salsberg

Why oh why can't this paper appear at least twice a week? Really, why?

Things being what they are I shall try to do justice to at least some of the precious material I carry around.

First: As you surely know, Israel has entered the stormy period of a national general election. As in every democracy there are competing political parties seeking the favor of the citizenry. But in "little Israel" there are 50 such registered parties who have entered the electoral arena for the gladiatorical battle to choose the members of the next Knesset.

Once again Israel sets an example for all other democracies who, nebech, have only two, three or, at the most, four parties to choose from. Yes, my friends, we are ahead of most other nation states in the world in the election of its government . . .

Second: In my bag of clippings is an important one from the New York Orthodox Yiddish weekly, *Der Algemeiner Journal*, of March 27/92. A three column headline reads: "Russian Immigrants Escape (Antloyfen) From Israel Via (Durch) Hungary."

With all respects for the *Algemeiner Journal* which I read and respect, this is a scare headline which the realities of the situation do not merit.

Israel, thank heaven, is a democratic country and its citizens are free to come and go. No one in Israel has to "escape" if he or she desires to leave. So why do they "escape" to Hungary and not to the land of their origin?

All of which only concedes the thorny problem that faces Russian Jewry.

The "new" Russia is also the land in which traditional anti-Semitism is now raising its ugly head. Many Russian Jews are eager to escape such a threat. But many Russian Jews, having succeeded to leave their inhospitable birthplaces in Russia, are not necesarily prepared to exchange Russia for Israel. They might prefer North America, Australia etc. . . .

Nevertheless, a headline like the one in the *Algemeiner Journal* that "Russian Immigrants Escape from Israel through Hungary" shocks and depresses.

But who am I, or who are all of us, living in North America, to criticize the Russian migrants?

If any of those Russian Jewish immigrants will reach our shores we need to receive them with open arms and do everything possible to integrate them into our community. Under no condition have we, Canadian Jews, the moral right to act otherwise.

Yes, my dear and sympathetic readers, I know that I have dealt with this mental and moral dilemma many times recently. But is it my fault that my pocket-full of notes and memos for this column refer to this specifically Jewish dilemma so often? . . .

So some Russian Jewish immigrants to Israel will most likely leave the Jewish homeland. So did thousands of earlier olim from Russia, the United States and Canada. All of them made valuable contributions to the birth and growth of what eventually became the Jewish State.

That state has become the largest Jewish community in the world and the centre of Jewish concerns around the world.

Don't worry. Everything will eventually be all right. You and I will help to make it so . . .

Art exhibit reveals Nazis' 'madness'

By
RABBI W. GUNTHER PLAUT

Visitors to the U.S. West Coast are probably familiar with a recent exhibit in Los Angeles. Prepared by Stephanie Barron, 1991, it opened to splendid reviews. Though all of the artists on exhibit were well known and what was shown was not necessarily their best work, their collection was special, for it brought back a significant moment in modern history.

When the Nazis came to power in Germany, they began to target everything and anything that to them appeared to mar their "ideal of pure German-Aryan art." In 1933 they had a public burning of what they called "degenerate books" and shortly thereafter they began to collect, steal and confiscate all paintings, sculptures and graphics which displeased them — in part because of their contemporary style and in part because of the artists themselves. Needless to say, Jewish artists played a significant part in this assemblage.

So, in 1937, the Nazis mounted an exhibit in Munich which they called Entartete Kunst, degenerate art. When taken on tour after the opening, it attracted three million viewers, and subsequently 112 artists were banned and about 16,000 works collected by the censors.

Rabbi Plaut

Some of the "purists" wanted to burn all of it after the tour, but the "pragmatists" prevailed and sold off the art to any exhibition visitor who was bold enough to buck the official trend. Thus, part of the vast collection was saved and returned to private hands, but all the rest was burned in 1939.

Now the Los Angeles County Museum of Art has brought together some of the works that survived. Viewers found it difficult to imagine how, some 55 years ago, there were people in Germany angry enough to get exercised over the material which nowadays has been accepted as a part of the world's art history.

We don't have to admire Paul Klee or be swept off our feet by Pablo Picasso; we may or may not be moved by the work of Franz Marc and his "Blue Horses" or Kaethe Kollopwitz and her images of despair; we may not be taken by the fancy of Marc Chagall's work — but no one is shocked , and the aberration of Aryan purism as spouted by the Nazis is highlighted once again and remains a potent warning for all.

The exhibit has since been taken to Germany and was premiered in Berlin. Adolf Ziegler, president of the Reich's Chamber of the Fine Arts, had declared in 1937: "You see around you these monstrous products of madness, of impudence, of depression. What this exhibition has to offer makes us all feel shocked and disgusted." In the Germany of 1992 the disgust is transferred from the paintings to the Zieglers and their ilk.

Mind you, the spirit of art censorship was not unique to the Nazis, although it never descended to their level. But right here in Canada we have had bouts with "experts" who want to determine what can or not be shown; Cincinnati recently went through its period of public trial; and Jesse Helms of the U.S. Senate has tried to hobble the National Endowment for the Arts.

Der Tagesspiegel in Berlin had this comment:

"There is no doubt that this historical reconstruction serves a good purpose. This art, outlawed at the time, is no longer ostracized. Modern art has shown itself to be more durable than all the state and political party art of totalitarian regimes. The exhibition helps to sharpen the eye to the autonomy of art which is always under threat."

A good teacher can make a big difference

By
ELAINE KAHN

My adulthood began 20 years ago this week, when I was unceremoniously thrown out of the life of my former Grade 13 English teacher, whose wife mistook my passionate hero worship for something a little less ethereal. My teacher, already ill with a brain tumor, died four months later.

His name was David and I write this in his memory. Our friendship, and the trauma of its ending, shook up and shaped my life for many years later.

I've often wondered what he'd think about my evolution from a teenager whose connection to Judaism was the chicken soup I made him after his first hospitalization to the very committed Jew I am now. Quite probably, he'd be very pleased — he was the first religious Christian I was aware of knowing.

Elaine Kahn

I remember being happy that his faith helped him in his dying, but I also thought it was a character flaw, a weakness hard to reconcile with my hero worship. Back then, I had no command of any religious vocabulary, but full command of the vocabulary of religious disparagement, headed by "crutch."

There were only three years between David's death and meeting my husband. They were, typically for one's early 20s (at the very least!), years spent trying to figure out who I was. I never dabbled in other religions during that search, but I finally tired of joining in when Judaism was disparaged and decided to learn something about it, for the first time since I quit cheder at age 10.

There was never any question of leaving Judaism, just a great need to find out how to define it for the grown-up me. That process, of course, still continues.

This all came to mind recently when I was asked to speak at a multi-faith symposium at the University of Toronto on whether religion has any meaning today. Perhaps a handful of Jewish students showed up.

I was really disappointed. Because, although I would never have made a good teacher (the idea of teaching people sitting in a class because they have to be there, not because they love the subject, has no appeal to me), I do enjoy this kind of informal teaching and had hoped to inspire younger searching Jews by talking about the daily applications of a culture, history and religion that they, like me back then, had most likely not explored since childhood.

I'd hoped to push them past what they (like me) had probably gotten from their parents: the loving but limited idea that being Jewish mainly means marrying Jewish, with the answer to "why?" running the stifled gamut from 'because" to "Hitler."

Oh well, I first thought, I came back to Jewish involvement through life experiences, not through some panel discussion, and so will some of those absent students. But I've since gotten a little surly.

I've started to wonder why so much effort is directed toward reaching "our young people" or the elusive, but always popular, "unaffiliated," to help them "find" Judaism. Maybe, like trying to teach anyone in class aside from the eager beavers at the front, it's a big waste of time. Maybe the onus should be on them to find their tradition, as I did. They are, after all, adults.

Whether in our 20s or 80s, it's up to each of us to decide whether Judaism is something we'll learn to make personally meaningful or something we'll just abandon. Nothing coerces us to remain Jewish today, aside from family pressure, which, by itself, is not enough to sustain a healthy commitment to anything. If being Jewish means nothing to you personally, ditch it.

Just remember that actions have consequences — if your family throws a fit, be prepared to defend yourself. And please don't use the defence of "you didn't raise me very Jewishly" — you're an adult now and can learn for yourself. This defence is no more tolerable than berating your parents for the way you turned out without taking the adult step of working it out in therapy. If you can't stand the heat, stay out of the kvetching.

I always find this a weird time, this hiatus between Pesach and Shavuot. The older I get, the less I want to spend seders with people who are there only out of fear of family displeasure, whose only interest is the meal, who complain that the haggadah is meaningless (often the same people who would never try to find some of the new haggadot with extensive English commentaries because too much English would make the proceedings "feel wrong" and too much commentary would delay the food).

And I'm reluctantly moving my personal focus of Shavuot from Naomi and Ruth, compelling as the tale may be to the main story of the giving of the Torah: recent demographic studies have shown that "ethnic" Judaism, conversion and outreach to intermarrieds are not helping Jewish life as much as previously thought. But I see a new point of convergence between the stories: learning about Judaism, learning Torah, as an adult.

It seems to me the primary benefit of conversion courses is that they force Jews, attending class with their non-Jewish partners, to confront Judaism as adults, usually for the first time. They do it out of love.

And what I've come to wonder is: why don't we all? If we love our kids, if we love our parents and, most important, if we want that inner reconciliation that lets us love ourselves, why don't we all make time for that adult confrontation with Judaism?

Doesn't guarantee we'll accept it. Desn't mean it will become a fulfilling natural grounding of our lives. Won't stop intermarriage. But at least we'll know what we're talking about.

There's an awful lot of hurt that can happen when you reject something or someone without knowing what's really going on.

A BUSY MARKET

Shopper selects fresh fish from a stall in the Carmel market. [IPPA photo]

Features

Relations with U.S. reach a nadir

By
SHELDON KIRSHNER

Israel's pivotal relationship with the United States has reached a nadir.

This state of affairs — which has been several years in the making — is not just about President George Bush's startling rejection of a compromise formula under which the United States would have provided Israel with the first instalment of loan guarantees worth $10 billion over five years.

It also stems from the volcanic changes in Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union since 1989, the 1990-1991 diplomatic crisis and war in the Persian Gulf, and the current Israeli government's ideological fixation with building settlements throughout the territories.

It should be noted, however, that the tension is not unprecedented in the annals of Israel-U.S. relations, and that the links between Washington and Jerusalem still remain uncommonly strong.

A look at the record puts the present situation into some perspective:

In its effort to build an anti-Communist alliance in the Middle East, the Eisenhower administration assiduously cultivated ties with the Arab world and displayed coolness toward Israel.

In 1953, the United States suspended economic aid to Israel and criticized the Israelis for their retaliatory raids and their decision to move the Foreign Ministry to western Jerusalem. A year later, Washington called on Israel to give up unlimited immigration and to compensate Palestinians who had fled Israel during the War of Independence.

It will be recalled that Dwight Eisenhower was bitterly opposed to the 1956 Middle East war. He condemned France and Britain for taking part in it, and forced Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion to vacate the Sinai Peninsula.

With John F. Kennedy in the White House, there was an improvement in the atmosphere. In a break with U.S. policy, Kennedy sold military equipment — Hawk anti-aircraft missiles — to Israel. He spoke of the United States' "special relationship" with Israel. But there were acrimonious moments, turning on Kennedy's displeasure with Israel's clandestine nuclear weapons program.

Lyndon Baines Johnson, who considered himself Israel's friend, neither recognized Israel's annexation of East Jerusalem nor its claim to the territories.

Although Richard Nixon recognized Israel as a strategic asset, his first secretary of state, William Rogers, declared that Israel's post-1967 ceasefire lines "should not reflect the weight of conquest."

Nixon's successor, Gerald Ford, exerted enormous pressure on Israel after it rejected the terms of a second disengagement accord with Egypt. And Jimmy Carter, who followed Ford, caused much hand-wringing in Jerusalem with his espousal of Palestinian national rights.

Ronald Reagan was supposedly the most pro-Israel of presidents. But Reagan got on Israel's nerves with his criticism of its annexation of the Golan Heights, its bombing of Iraq's nuclear reactor, its invasion of Lebanon and its role in the Jonathan Pollard espionage case.

George Bush assumed office shortly before the collapse of Israel's national unity government and the formation of its most right-wing government, which has been headed by Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir since June 1990.

Bush and his secretary of state, James Baker, regard Israel as a valued ally. But they are of the firm opinion that Israel should abide by the land-for-peace formula, as enshrined in United Nations Resolution 242.

Animated by this spirit, Bush and Baker have delivered a series of tough messages reminding Israel that the United States regards settlements as not only contrary to its own policy and international law, but as a major obstacle on the road to peace. Bush, in particular, upset Israel with his pointed statement that East Jerusalem is occupied territory. And the personal chemistry between Bush and Shamir has been less than ideal.

The Likud government, which vehemently rejects the notion of territorial compromise, has redoubled its efforts to populate the West Bank with Jews, this at a time when face-to-face Arab-Israeli peace talks have got under way. Shamir is committed to settling and retaining the territories, and is adamantly against Washington's suggestion of a settlement freeze.

Bush told U.S. Congressional leaders that, for this reason, he could not accept their compromise on loan guarantees to Israel. The Israeli ambassador to the United States, Zalman Shoval, publicly warned Shamir last summer that Israel could not have guarantees *and* settlements, but his words fell on deaf ears.

A year and a half ago, the United States gave Israel $400 million worth of loan guarantees. In return, Israel agreed to report on settlement construction. The Bush administration claims that Israel broke its promise.

These are not happy days for Israel's relationship with the United States. Here President George Bush confers with Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir in a 1991 White House meeting.

As a result of this, the surge in settlement activity and Arab pressure, Bush took a hard line toward the loan guarantees (which are designed to resettle Jewish immigrants from the former Soviet Union, but which, in Washington's view, can free up Israeli funds for the territories.) The Bush administration has denied charges that it has pressured European countries, such as Germany, to deny Israel loan guarantees.

It is noteworthy that Bush has stuck to his guns during an election year in the United States. The recession in America has created an insular mood somewhat antithetical to foreign aid, and Bush seems to have exploited this climate in an attempt to wring concessions from Israel.

But the troubles besetting Israel's friendship with the United States transcend the question of settlements and the status of the territories.

For many years, Israel-U.S. relations were largely based on shared democratic values. The Holocaust and an influential American Jewish community reinforced the United States' still-undiluted commitment to Israel's existence as a Zionist Jewish state in the Middle East.

Settlements, loan guarantees end of communism, create problems

In the wake of the Six Day War, with its demonstration of Israel's military prowess, Israel and its supporters actively promoted the idea that its value to the United States turned on blocking Soviet ambitions in the Middle East.

In the fullness of time, Israel became America's strategic ally in the region. Israel and the United States entered into a series of agreements that solidified their bonds, but that prompted critics to charge that Israel was Washington's policeman in the Middle East.

The collapse of communism in Eastern Europe, following the fall of the Berlin Wall, was initially to Israel's advantage. Regimes that had shunned Israel and embraced the PLO warmed up to Israel.

Yet the end of the Cold War and the disappearance of the Soviet Union undermined Israel's strategic position, insofar as the United States was concerned.

The diplomatic crisis in the Persian Gulf, prompted by Iraq's invasion and annexation of Kuwait, placed another question mark over Israel's value to the United States.

Throughout the summer and autumn of 1990, as the United States readied itself for a showdown with Iraq, the Bush administration cultivated Arab regimes. Syria, which had been a Soviet client and an incessant critic of American policy in the Middle East, was also wooed.

In order to mollify its Arab allies, the United States bent over backwards. After the October 1990 Temple Mount disturbances in Jerusalem, the United States backed several United Nations' resolutions condemning Israel. But in all fairness, the intifada, of which the Temple Mount incident was part, had already aggravated Israel's increasingly touchy relations with the United States.

During the Gulf War, when Iraq fired Scud missles at Israel, the United States convinced the Israeli government not to retaliate. Bush feared that Israeli involvement in the conflict would threaten the viability of the anti-Iraqi coalition. In the face of Iraq's aggression, Israel was applauded for its restraint. But some Bush administration officials drew the conclusion that Israel was more of a liability than an asset to the United States.

In Bush's vaunted New World Order, the Shamir government appears out of step with the pace of rapid change around the globe. To Bush and Baker, Shamir is hopelessly trapped in a time warp of ideological recalcitrance.

In the past few months, the rancor between Israel and the United States has grown to alarming proportions. It has been fed by the controversy over loan guarantees, by unconfirmed rumors that Baker used a four-letter expletive to dismiss American Jews and by reports that Baker wants to include Palestinians from abroad in Arab-Israeli talks on Middle East regional issues later this month.

The acrimony has been heightened by unfounded allegations that Israel sold China Patriot missile technology, by press leaks that Israel illegally transferred American weapon technology to Chile, Ethiopia and South Africa and by Washington's support of a Jan. 6 United Nations resolution which appeared to bolster Palestinian claims to the West Bank and Jerusalem.

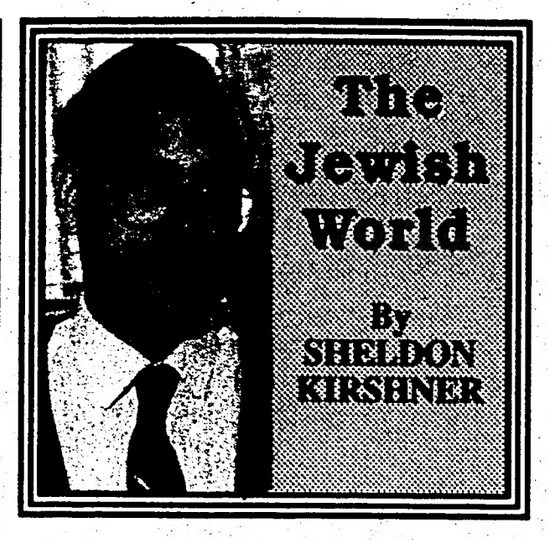
Despite these onerous developments, the United States clearly wants to keep its relationship with Israel on an even keel:

- In a significant gesture, Bush and Baker each signed a condolence book at the Israeli Embassy in Washington after Menachem Begin's death.
- On March 19, Bush assured George Klein, a prominent Jewish Republican, of his "fundamental commitment" to Israel.
- On March 25, the U.S. ambassador to Israel, William Harrop, said that the United States would maintain Israel's military "qualitative edge" over the Arabs and would not reduce current foreign aid levels.
- On April 1, Baker stated that "the fundamentals of our relationship are... rock solid."
- On April 8, U.S. Vice-President Dan Quayle asserted that the United States' links with Israel were "permanent and unshakeable."
- On April 14, it was reported that the United States will continue to fund Israel's Arrow anti-missile project.

Nevertheless, Israel's relationship with the United States is dogged by unresolved problems, and a potentially bruising congressional battle lies ahead.

The United States expects greater Israeli flexiblity in peace talks with the Arabs, especially with regard to the Palestinians, and more of a forthcoming approach vis-a-vis the settlements.

And now the pro-Israel community in Washington has put White House on notice that it will fight its proposal to sell Saudi Arabia 72 advanced F-15 fighter planes.



Bill Clinton is striking a sympathetic chord among American Jews with his strong pro-Israel message.

Clinton, the current governor of Arkansas, will likely be the Democratic party's standardbearer in the November presidential election. Since February, he has won a string of primaries, knocking Bob Kerrey, Tom Harkin, Paul Tsongas and Edmund (Jerry) Brown Jr. out of contention.

Clinton's incumbent Republican foe, George Bush, has angered a considerable number of Jews by linking Israel's request for $10 billion worth of loan guarantees with a settlement freeze in the territories. The Bush administration believes that settlements subvert U.S. policy and are an impediment to peace, but Israel says the loans would be used to resettle new immigrants.

Like Bush, Clinton is of the opinion that settlements are an "obstacle to peace." But, unlike Bush, he contends that settlements are one of several roadblocks on the path toward an Arab-Israeli accord: the Arab economic boycott, the refusal of Arab nations to recognize Israel and the undemocratic nature of Arab governments.

Pro-Israel message

According to Clinton, Israel's settlements should be the subject of discussion in Arab-Israeli talks. U.S. Secretary of State James Baker has strenuously denied Clinton's accusation that, since the end of the Gulf War, the Bush administration has continuously needled Israel about its settlements.

Clinton has criticized Bush for having used "public pressure tactics against Israel," saying that such an approach raises Arab expectations of Israeli concessions and Israeli fears of an "imposed solution."

Charging that the Bush administration has "poisoned" the relationship with Israel, Clinton says he would attempt "to shape the peace process in private... without trying to weaken Israel in public."

Clinton is also critical of the Bush administration's support of a January 1992 United Nations' Security Council resolution which harshly condemned Israel's decision to deport several Palestinians. As he put it: "It was more strident than the language the UN used to condemn [Saddam] Hussein when he invaded Kuwait."

In further distancing himself from Bush, Clinton says that Israel is entitled to the loan guarantees, without regard to its settlements.

For all their differences, Clinton and Bush fully support current United States aid levels to Israel and oppose a Palestinian state.

On the controversial issue of moving the American Embassy in Israel from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem, Clinton is cagey. It should be moved, but not precipitously, he says. Bush, echoing the policy of his most recent predecessors, believes that the status quo should govern Washington's stand on this issue, at least until Israel, its Arab neighbors and the Palestinians reach a consensus.

Clinton is cagey

As he criss-crosses the country, Clinton tells Jewish voters that Israel can rely on him, but not on Bush. The Bush administration, he claims, cannot be trusted "when the chips are down." He presents himself as a president who'd consider Israel's existence of "fundamental importance to the United States." In reality, all presidents, with the possible exception of Dwight Eisenhower, have hewed to that formulation.

It's impossible to ascertain whether Clinton's statements on Israel are genuine or merely opportunistic. But Clinton and his backers realize that American Jews, while constituting only roughly three percent of the total population, are disproportionately influential:

- Jews have one of the highest percentage voter turnouts of any ethnic group, and they are known as dependable contributors to party coffers;
- Almost 90 percent live in 12 key electoral college states, notably New York, California, Texas, Michigan and Illinois;
- In every election since 1916, most Jews, regardless of their socio-economic background, have voted for the Democratic candidate.

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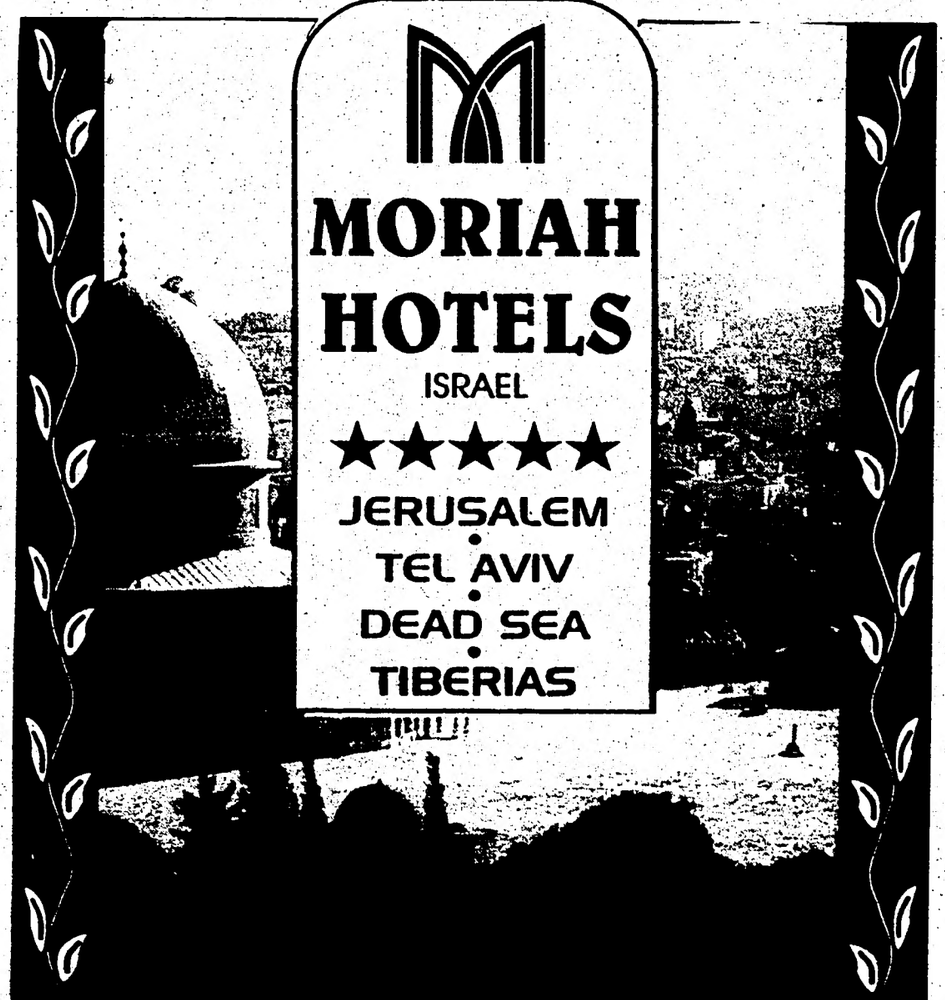
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Hope to see you soon! Love, Israel

Family trip to Israel evokes strong emotions

By
LEILA SPEISMAN

TORONTO —

O.K., now. You have decided to take your first trip to Israel. With your teenage children.

You have listened to the hysterical laughter of your friends who have previously gone with youngsters. You have had long, earnest talks with the guys who sit next to you at shul, co-workers, people you meet at the supermarket, and heard all about the advice given the children by their classmates.

Then what?

My family found ourselves in that situation last year, when we decided to go to Israel to celebrate our twins' bat mitzvah.

Our final decision was to go on a formal tour, one sponsored by Mizrachi of Canada.

This was not solely because they were going at a convenient time, when the kids would lose a minimum of school (the winter break), but also because we felt that going with a group that shared our religious and philosophical world view would make the experience more meaningful.

The choice was absolutely correct.

We got our passports (did you know that acknowledgement of birth is not good enough, and you have to make a special trip to get an actual birth certificate, and someone along the way is sure to point out coldly that claiming that two children in the family have the same birthdate is not only silly but irresponsible, and why is your husband the only one whose passport picture is halfway respectable?)

We also got supplies of Gravol, portable games, ample stocks of nosherei, secret money holders, travel sewing kit — you get the idea.

The five of us, a friend and our baggage arranged to go to the airport in a large van. Never think that just because you book a month ahead and both you and your friend call to confirm on the morning of the flight will guarantee that the company you go with will not believe that you actually prefer a five-seater/minimal truck car.

Don't believe either that the time you are assured you are leaving bears any relation to the time you leave. Use the hour and a half (if you are lucky) finding out who else is on the trip, looking over the itinerary (which you have just received) and restocking the nosherei.

My children had spoken to me sternly, ordering me not to cry and embarass them (my husband realized that was a waste of time). Nevertheless, I expected that when we landed I would dissolve in floods of tears.

I didn't. Maybe I was too tired, maybe Ben-Gurion Airport is just like any other airport, maybe Tel Aviv is too much like any other big city.

Israel Travel

We learned quickly that we were supposed to be pleased at the opportunity to be ready for breakfast at 6.30 a.m. While we could see the rationale for this (Israel is mostly dark by 5 p.m., so to get a full day you have to get up early) "pleased" was not the word we would have chosen.

But then, there was the day that my husband didn't get his wake-up call and had to say his morning prayers in the room, rather than in the hotel synagogue — and found himself reciting the psalms while watching the sun come up over the same Jerusalem hills the Psalmist had seen.

We saw Atlit, near Haifa (we would have seen Haifa, except we were fogged in, a fact that didn't stop our bus driver from zooming down the winding hills from Sefat as if he could see the road). Atlit, which is in the process of restoration, was one of the main internment camps used by the British to house illegal immigrants before independence.

With incomprehensible lack of sensitivity, the arrival point, a train station outside of a barbed wire, closely resembled that of Auschwitz, the families were separated, made to strip and enter delousing showers.

The fact that the showers actually were showers, must have been cold comfort to people recently freed from the hell of Hitler's Europe.

A film describes movingly the despair of people in the camp, attempts of the yishuv to help them, and successful breakouts by the Palmach.

Perhaps the most moving event was a trip to a hesder yeshiva at Shilo, where Rabbi Sheldon Steinberg, chaplain of the Toronto Jewish community and his wife Shirley donated a sefer Torah.

Shilo was holy to Jews before David made Jerusalem his capital — it was the place where the Ark of the Covenant was kept before Solomon built the Temple. It was here that for the first time I cried uncontrollably, struck by the unbroken chain that bound me and mine to Jews thousands of years ago.

I picked up a stone to take home as a remembrance — and found that two of my daughters had done the same thing, felt the same way.

Most of the tour memories are vignettes; my 15 year old praying at the Kotel for the first time with such ferver that she didn't notice when a heavy rain started, watching sunsets and sunrises over the Jerusalem hills, the stone streets of the artists' colonies of Sefat, the plane that rescued the hostages at Entebbe, a guide taking us around the Tempie ruins and old Jerusalem while reading from the Bible the verse that proved our historical right to that inch of earth, an achingly young man visiting his parents for Shabbat at the hotel — and leaving for his yeshiva wearing an army uniform and a gun.

And cheering tour chairman Murray Segal, taking a break from battling for public funding for Jewish day schools, as he re-arranged the schedule for the umpteenth time to deal with the unexpected snowstorms which paralyzed the country. And then it was time to leave. We repacked our bags, not as neatly, stocked up, again, on nosherei, went to the airport.

I hadn't cried when we arrived, but on the tarmac, looking at the palm trees and the hills and straining to remember the look and feel of the place, I sobbed bitterly, feeling how precious Israel had become to us all.

Rabbi Sheldon Steinberg carries the sefer Torah he and his wife Shirley presented to the hesder yeshiva at Shilo. Rabbi Moshe Stern can be seen on the right.

Rabbi Moshe Stern presents inscribed Tehillim (Psalms) to Shevi (left) and Tova Speisman to mark their bat mitzvahs. Mother Leila (far left) looks on.

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Twins' bat mitzvahs held at Kever Rachel

By
LEILA SPEISMAN

TORONTO —

Contrary to popular belief, Orthodox families do mark their daughters' bat mitzvah, the birthday that marks their accepting their full responsibilities as Jews.

True, there is no taking part in the synagogue ritual, no reading from the Torah, no speaking during Sabbath services.

However, the girls are more than conscious of the significance of the event, and take seriously their changed status and role in the Jewish community.

When our older daughter, Joanna, turned 12, we had a family luncheon, at which she delivered a d'var Torah, and a bowling/pizza party for her friends, at which she also gave a d'var Torah.

The d'var Torah at that party, she informed us (parents, of course, knowing nothing of what life is all about) was what really signified to her peers that she had reached bat mitzvah.

Then it came time for our twin daughters, Tova and Shevi, to reach that milestone. But there was more to be marked than coming of age.

You see, they were born nine weeks premature, and their survival even of the birth process, let alone the first months of life, was a very chancy thing.

Shevi, who was smaller, became very sick, eventually reaching the stage when the high technology and tremendous skill of the staff of the Hospital for Sick Children was reduced to the suggestion that only prayers could help.

When a family has been through an experience like that, something really special is called for.

We decided that all five of us would go to Israel.

This is not unknown for bat mitzvah girls, by the way, or for bar mitzvah boys either, but since none of us had been there before, it was a dramatic decision. (Tova, knowing my propensity for procrastination, admits she "didn't believe we would really go!")

Both girls say they were nervous about the idea when they first heard about it, Shevi worrying she would feel uncomfortable in Israel.

We went with the annual Mizrachi of Canada tour, the organizers of which, especially national executive director Rabbi Menachem Gopin, taking great pains to arrange everything for us.

It was decided to have the ceremony at Kever Rachel, the tomb of Rachel at Ramah. Not only was Rachel one of the matriarchs, and thus appropriate to oversee a bat mitzvah, but she signifies the longing and love of Jewish parents for the welfare of their children.

This is not a usual place for such an event; Masada is more common, for instance.

Israel Travel

It was raining heavily that morning, and amidst umbrellas, rainhats and the watchful eyes of armed soldiers, the entire tour, some 100 strong, squeezed into the tomb area.

My husband Stephen gave an emotional speech, bearing witness to what we felt was not only good fortune, but the immense mercy of G-d that these children had survived and matured into healthy, intelligent, young Jewish women.

Rabbi Sheldon Steinberg, chaplain of the Toronto Jewish community, a close family friend, and the first non-medical person to have seen the twins on the day they were born, spoke, as did Rabbi Moshe Stern, of Toronto's Shaare Tefillah Congregation. (Both rabbis just happened to be on the trip; this was not planned!)

Rabbi Stern then presented each of them with inscribed, beautifully bound copies of the book of Psalms, on behalf of Mizrachi.

The girls chose not to speak, although they were offered the opportunity to do so.

The group then recited Psalms, or said personal prayers, as is customary at Kever Rachel.

There was scarcely a dry eye in the place. Many told us that it was one of the most moving experiences they had encountered.

What did the honorees think of the whole thing?

Well, both confessed they were embarassed at the attention, the cameras and videocams, the speeches, the tears.

Shevi said she felt good, because she liked having the tour people with us, especially tour supervisor Jack Kahn, president of Canadian Mizrachi, who she was fond of, and our incomparable tour guide David Magentza who had impressed her immensely.

Tova allowed that it was the best way to have celebrated a bat mitzvah.

"Kever Rachel is such a special place."

And what about Israel itself, for these Canadian pre-teens?

When we landed at Ben-Gurion Airport, Tova says, she was disappointed.

"It was raining, and so dirty. I thought that this can't be Israel.

"Then when I looked out of the hotel window, I saw that it was very beautiful."

The highlight for her was the Kotel, with the kvitlech, the papers people had pushed into the wall, just as many had for her when she was born.

"And I never thought I would see snow on palm trees!" (Yes, following our family's tradition of something dramatic always happening to us, we were in Israel during the first major snowfall in 50 years.)

And Shevi, who had been afraid she would feel uncomfortable in Israel?

"When I got to Israel, I felt really at home — I didn't feel strange at all."

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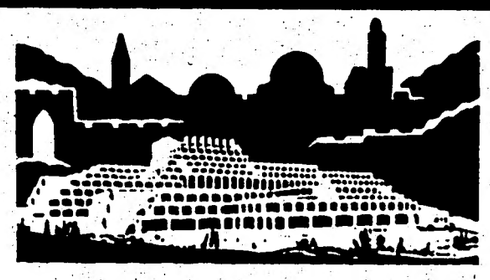

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TRAVEL TALK

By LEN BUTCHER

On May 10 the **Bible Lands Museum** will open its doors to the public. Located next to the **Israel Museum** in **Jerusalem** it is a magnificent building housing an even more magnificent collection of artifacts depicting the ancient peoples surrounding the land of **Israel**.

I had the pleasure of touring the museum when I was in **Israel** several weeks ago. My tour guide was none other than **Benjamin Abileah,** the former Israeli consul-general in **Toronto** who recently returned to **Israel** following his posting here. **Abileah** accepted the position as the museum's director.

I'm not going to go into any detail about the museum. It will get plenty of well-deserved publicity once it opens. What I am going to talk about is the man behind the museum, because this is the real story.

His name is **Elie Borowski.** Originally from **Poland,** he was, until a few years ago, a resident of **Toronto** who owned a vast collection of more than 3,000 pieces which he hoped would become a permanent part of the **Royal Ontario Museum.** But this is **Ontario,** isn't it and God forbid we add any culture. Better to use our money to save **Maple Leaf Gardens** as an historical site if need be, or help bail out **Olympia & York.** But I digress.

When it appeared nothing was going to happen here, **Elie's** charming wife **Batya** got the ear of **Jerusalem** mayor **Teddy Kollek,** whose city provided a wonderful site on a hillside to permanently house the collection. Now all that was needed was money.

To make a long story short, there were setbacks. Construction began on the $3 million structure in 1985 and was to have been finished in two years. Instead it took more than six years and costs soared to $12 million, 99 percent of that financed by the **Borowskis.**

But now it is a reality and **Elie Borowski** and I had a chance to sit down for a few hours and talk about himself, the museum and the reason for its existence.

As a young man in **Poland** he was a student of religion and his interest in biblical history took him to **Berlin, Florence** and the **Sorbonne.** He also saw the writing on the wall with **Hitler.** When war broke out he joined a **Polish** unit under **French** control and fought the **Germans** who were sweeping across **France.** He remembers that the **French** had already surrendered, but his unit and a unit of black soldiers from **North Africa** kept fighting. "We were badly outnumbered but we fought our way to the **Swiss** border where we were put into military internment."

But it was during this time and immediately after the war that **Borowski** accumulated much of his collection by buying and selling artifacts that came onto the market during the turmoil of the war.

The war, however, took its toll. His mother, three brothers and a sister were lost in the Holocaust. **Borowski** stayed in **Switzerland** earning a reputation as one of the world's most respected dealers and consultants in his field. His clients soon included some of the world's richest people and his collection continued to grow.

Borowski's one weakness was that he hated to sell any of his artifacts, even if he needed the money, so he used his knowledge of art to buy pieces of art. "Art that I could sell. I was a pioneer in the buying and selling of what became fashionable as abstract art. In the 1950s I started buying **Sardinian** art and developed the greatest collection, after the **National Museum of Italy,** in the world. Because of the appeal of classical art, I was very succesful by furnishing this art to the leading museums of the world."

Was the **Bible Lands Museum** a lifelong dream? No, says **Borowski,** pushing his chair back from the massive desk in his office. He rubs his face with both hands and his booming voice drops to a whisper as he stares at the wall. At this moment, this big, rugged man looks his 79 years.

"It isn't that I had a guilt complex having survived the Holocaust when almost all of my family disappeared. If I didn't have a complex of guilt, I didn't know how to do justice to them. I'm sure that when my brothers and sister and mother realized they were about to say goodbye to this life, they knew that I was someplace and that I was ready to do whatever they would have asked me to do.

"I believe they did not wish that I go and do to the mothers and sisters and brothers what was going to be done to them. But undoubtedly, they wished that I should somehow eliminate, somehow throw out, the beast from the man. My feeling was that if that was the last wish of my family, then my last wish is to awaken, to find any incentive, a provocation, a cause, for people to open the Bible, to take advice from the Bible, to adopt the moral values of the Bible and to realize that man is made in the image of **God.**

"I hope that the **Jews** will open their eyes to this history, to open their eyes to the past so they will not be blinded any more by material success." He raises his voice. "The successful and rich Jews from **England, France** and even the neighborhood of my country they didn't see the mountain, even though the mountain was burning. Even I, as a young boy, saw what was happening and knew I had to leave **Poland.** That is the scope of my **Bible Lands Museum.**"

Borowski's voice drops back to a whisper.

"And maybe a small fraction--two or three percent--of those coming to the museum may go back home and open the Bible and maybe some of them will start to move in the right direction. It is a tragedy that the satisfaction of the physical needs and the greed and jealousy of the neighbor are which dominates the human being, dominates the politics of nations, dominates our lives.

"I hope the **Bible Lands Museum** will not be a voice in the desert. Even if I touch only one percent of its visitors, it will have achieved its purpose."

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LEARNING ABOUT BEDOUIN

Jewish schoolchildren near the Bedouin village of Lehav being shown how a Bedouin bride and groom go to their wedding. [IPPA photo]

Program pairs Israelis, tourists

TEL AVIV —

Visitors to Israel meet many Israelis, but frequently only guides, waiters, taxi drivers and alike. For many this is not enough — they want to get acquainted with the average Israeli, see his or her home, have a chat, hear about day-to-day life, joys and problems, as well as opinions on subjects of national importance.

In the Meet The Israeli program, conducted by the Israel Ministry of Tourism, the tourist has an opportunity to do so.

In Jerusalem, Haifa, Tel Aviv, Eilat, Tiberias or Netanya, host families welcome guests from abroad for a cup of coffee and cake and a chat. Tourists have only to call in at one of the Tourist Information Offices in these cities, two to three days in advance and the arrangements are quickly finalized — the hosting families are indexed according to language, profession and hobbies to facilitate the process.

After visitor and host are matched, the tourist is given the name, address and phone number of his host.

The visiting tourist must phone the host in advance and confirm the invitation so that parties can finalize the arrangements and avoid misunderstandings. The tourists will get to their hosts' house by their own means, aided by a map from the Tourist Information Office on which the address has been marked.

If they wish they may bring flowers, candy or a small gift from their own country, but this is entirely up to them. As everyone in Israel, they dress casually. Frequently the host also invites other Israelis over to meet the visitor.

The Meet the Israeli program is also available to groups. Travel agents (in Israel or abroad) or group organizers present detailed lists of the members of the group to the relevant Tourist Information Office, at least three weeks in advance.

The guide or tour leader phones each host family, one or two days before the appointed day to finalize the time and location of the meeting, together with transport arrangements. The host family is notified in the event of cancellation, to avoid any inconvenience.

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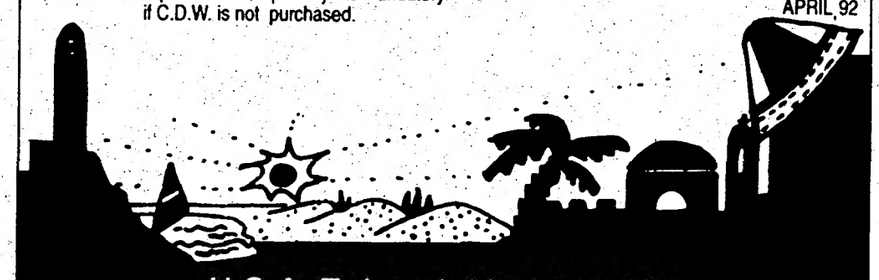

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FEDERATION NEWS

Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto -- United Jewish Appeal/Operation Exodus Jack Chisvin, President Steven Ain, Executive Director Thursday, May 7, 1992

Federation 'renews' its commitment to Israel

"Project Renewal works," says Alan Brown, who co-chairs the Project Renewal committee with Shoel Silver.

Funded by United Jewish Appeal/Operation Exodus,the concept of Project Renewal is much more than a simple restoration or renovation plan: The Project Renewal ideal is intended to enhance the quality of life in disadvantaged Israeli communities by joining together the government of Israel, the Jewish Agency for Israel, municipal government, Diaspora communities and local residents.

Despite a tremendous wave of immigration and economic conditions, says Brown, Project Renewal maintains what he calls people-to-people contact."Rather than have the message be delivered from afar, we're in contact. The community members have a direct, hands-on relationship with the Diaspora," Brown explains.

The Israeli neighborhoods and towns initially included in Project Renewal were populated largely by Morroccan and Yemenite olim and their children. These communities ranked low in government priority, and were marked by alienation, apathy and occasional crime on the part of the residents.

Project Renewal began with the government of the late statesman, former Prime Minister Menachem Begin. In 1979, Begin came to Toronto and helped to raise $5 million for the cause of Renewal. A delegation of Toronto representatives, which included Gerry Halbert, Jack Chisvin, and Dr. Charles Gold visited several communities to determine which would "twin" with Toronto. Beit Dagan was chosen. So would be Kfar Gvirol, and, three years ago, Eilat and Hevel Eilot.

Beit Dagan was chosen for the severe need evident in the community around 12 years ago. An old Arab village, its residents were living in the dwellings that had been abandoned, or in the hastily built apartment blocks from the 1950s. It was unknown to outsiders, except as a centre for the drug trade.

Large photo, from left: Uzi Zwebner, treasurer of Eilat, and Eilat Mayor Rafi Hochman, meet with *Toronto Project Renewal committee members Alan Brown and Marty Golberg at Eilat's municipal center to discuss potential development plans.* Top left: Project Renewal committee member Billy Kassel visits an after-school home environment center in Eilat. The center is supported by Project Renewal through the UJA/Operation Exodus campaign. Bottom left: The construction boom has come to Kfar Gvirol, thanks to Project Renewal.

Because of its problems and its proximity to Ben-Gurion Airport, Beit Dagan was almost demolished and its people dispersed. The youth were troubled and underachieving, to the point where a majority was unable to join the Israel Defense Forces, a benchmark prerequisite for success in Israeli society.

Today, says Brown, Beit Dagan is a different place. Spiritually and physically, the town has developed. "Veteran" residents are proud to be from Beit Dagan and new people are moving in.

The community center, day care center and swimming pool, Toronto Renewal projects, are symbols of the town's success. The old homes have been renovated and new apartments and homes are under construction. The improvement in scholastic achievement has been noteworthy, and the proportion of Beit Dagan students completing matriculation exams and serving in the army has grown significantly.

"We participate in an exchange program with them," Brown notes. "That's the real fruit of our labor: Even though we are in the phase-out stage after 12 years with the community, Project Renewal links us to them for life."

Kfar Gvirol was selected as Toronto's second Renewal twin. A neighborhood of Rehovot, Kfar Gvirol was hidden behind a stand of orange groves, literally on the wrong side of the tracks. While drug abuse was not a major concern, the other problems that characterized Beit Dagan were found in Kfar Gvirol.

These problems were exacerbated by clan battles within the neighborhood. Further obstructing the development of the neighborhood and its residents was the lack of resources and will on the part of the Rehovot municipality.

Toronto's involvement in Kfar Gvirol began in 1985, recalls Brown. The most tangible symbols are the unique and beautiful early childhood center and the soon to be completed renovation of the community center, he says. He describes the less visible effects, such as the increasing successes of the children in school and the newly formed local resident activists group.

Says Brown, "We engaged the services of Dr. Chaya Yitzchaki, a social worker who goes into these communities and really takes charge. She has a sparkling personality and has teams of social workers who teach people to be leaders."

As in Beit Dagan, Kfar Gvirol is witnessing a construction boom, in which longstanding residents are moving into upgraded accommodations and newcomers, both Soviet olim and veteran Israelis, are taking notice of Kfar Gvirol's charm.

Eilat and Hevel Eilot became Toronto's third Renewal project three years ago. The Jewish Agency proposed the project on the basis of a regional concept. The city of Eilat and the kibbutzim of the Eilot regional council were on one of two Israeli frontiers left to be effectively settled. While the popular image of Eilat was one of sea and hotels, the city's location and relative youth and the nature of the tourism industry left Eilat with a highly unstable population base and created social and economic challenges unlike those faced elsewhere in Israel.

In effective schools and public services made it even harder to keep people in the city as permanent residents, and thereby bring a measure of stability and civic pride. The kibbutz core was strong, but conditions made it difficult to grow to the"critical mass" that would make them economically and numerically secure. Meanwhile, the relations between the kibbutz region and the city were virtually non-existent.

The kibbutzim of Hevel Eilot have received assistance in their efforts to promote the region and attract new members. Toronto Renewal is funding student scholarships,with an emphasis on those skills which can most benefit the region in assisting in the funding of educational seminars, which have exposed the area to both North Americans and Israelis; and has provided playground equipment. In almost every instance, matching funds were obtained from other sources by Hevel Eilot.

The kibbutzim have also benefitted from participation in the gifted children program in Eilat. Other joint programs between Eilat and Hevel Eilot have included a family counselling center and a youth sports instruction project.

"These are the communities that I really feel at home in," declares Brown. "I sincerely urge people to get involved. Once you get off the tourist stream, you are able to interface with the country in such a different way. Project Renewal grows and changes." ❑

Fed Facts

There is very strong support for Israel among Toronto Jews. Almost two-thirds of all respondents have visited Israel at least one time, including:

- 53 percent of 18 to 24 year olds
- 62 percent of 25 to 44 year olds
- 57 percent of 45 to 54 year olds
- 71 percent of 55 to 64 year olds
- 65 percent of 65 to 74 year olds
- 69 percent of those over age 75

(From *A First Look*, a community study conducted by the Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto)

Federation News is written and produced by Communications, Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto, 4600 Bathurst Street, Willowdale, Ontario M2R 3V2 (416)635-2883

COMMUNICATIONS
INA GLICK · LYNDA BORDEN
JUDY GWARTZ
Federation Liaison

GET READY GET IN STEP!

Wanted: Entertainers!

United Jewish Appeal/ Operation Exodus' 24th annual Walk for Israel seeks strolling musicians, clowns, jugglers, magicians and others to volunteer at the Yom Yerushalayim Celebration at the end of the Walk for Israel route. Call Sylvia Astrug at 635-2883, ext 115.

OTZMA: Building leadership in young adults

FEDERATION -- Jonathan Koven's Otzma experience is paying off. What he learned during his 10-month stay in Israel as an Otzma participant is a foundation for his current involvement in Toronto's Jewish community.

Otzma is an intensive Jewish study program that combines kibbutz work, formal learning, personal contact with the Israeli business world and communal service in Project Renewal communities. Otzma participants often work with Israeli children from Renewal communities in various summer programs.

Some of the faces that await Otzma participants in Toronto's Project Renewal communities, such as Kfar Gvirol.

Otzma is a project of the Israel Forum, in cooperation with the Council of Jewish Federations and the Youth and Hechalutz department of the World Zionist Organization. It is funded by the Jewish Agency for Israel and the participating local Jewish federations in North America, including the Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto.

Koven, 28, was an Otzma participant during 1987-88. Upon his return, he became an Otzma committee member and worked on program recruitment. This year, he was asked to chair the committee.

"This is the first time a past participant had been asked to chair the committee," Koven points out.

"Now, I'm able to serve my time in the community and, hopefully, this will be the first of many involvements in the Federation."

Koven is taking part in the Leadership Development (LD) program, which is sponsored by the Federation's Human Resources Development department.

"Part of the greater goal is that, through programs like Otzma, you breed leadership," Koven continues. "I've reached the appropriate age to take part in LD, and that is the first stage of shaping leaders in the community as they go through the program.

The 10-month Otzma Israel program is open to young people through the Federation. For more information about Otzma, contact Dalia Pollock at 635-2883, ext. 149. ❑

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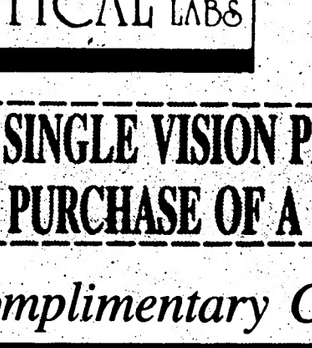

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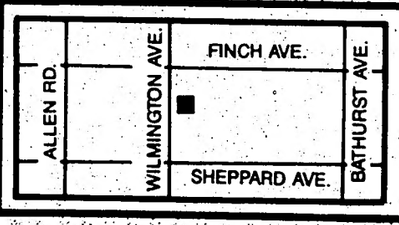

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Organizations and People

Toronto Sun gets awards for Middle East coverage

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN

TORONTO —

— The *Toronto Sun* is a beacon of balance and objectivity in a sea of criticism of Israel, says Donald Carr, senior partner in the law firm of Goodman and Carr.

"The paper does carry some distorted wire reports, but there is a very marked balance to its coverage of the Middle East," he says.

Carr, president of *The CJN*, was the keynote speaker at a recent breakfast sponsored by Beth Tzedec Congregation in conjunction with the Beth Tzedec Men's Club and Israel action committee. Its purpose was to present awards to the *Toronto Sun* in recognition of its unbiased Middle East news reporting.

Carr said that the steady diet of Middle East news received by the Canadian public is on the most part critical of Israel. "The reasons for this are much more complex than anti-Semitism. They are a mix of many facts including over-simplification, and the differences between closed dictatorships and an open democracy."

He told the group that the media always want to deliver a simple message and "good guy-bad guy is simple. It is easy to take pictures of confrontations and write about them and there is no room for in-depth coverage."

Donald Carr

Carr further explained that while under closed dictatorships foreign press is not allowed and local press is under strict control, in Israel, the foreign press is allowed to go practically everywhere and interview anyone they want.

"Some reporters, motivated by anti-Semitism, see Jews as the victimizers in a 'holocaust' against the Palestinian Arabs," said Carr, past president of United Jewish Welfare Fund of Toronto and a vice-president of Israel Appeal of Canada.

He said that in general the media are accountable to no one except in places like Ontario where there is the Ontario Press Council and even here, the OPC does not deal with long-term coverage of events.

Acting Israeli consul general, Oren David, presented three awards to *Toronto Sun* president, Paul Godfrey. The awards, which recognize the paper for its leadership and direction in fostering unbiased news reporting, went to the *Toronto Sun*, to chairman of the board, J. Douglas Creighton, and to Godfrey.

Godfrey said that "we stand up for Israel because we believe in Israel and have believed in Israel since day one."

He said that when he joined the paper eight years ago, he was told that it was bound by three principles — a free enterprise society, a belief in Toronto and support of Israel, the only democracy in the Middle East.

"We do have columnists that give their point of view but without exception our editorials, the official position of the newspaper, stand up for Israel. We are prepared to say when we think Israel is wrong but we do stand for its survival," he said.

Godfrey urged everyone to continue to "monitor all media, work with us to build a country with a free enterprise system, build Toronto and recognize that Israel has its place and its citizens should live in peace."

Nurenberger says goodbye as Jewish Times closes doors

TORONTO [Staff] —

M. J. (Meyer) Nurenberger has announced the demise of the English-language *Jewish Times* newspaper.

Nurenberger said he is "giving up" the paper. "I will not publish it anymore," he said. "I'm tired. . . as far as I'm concerned, it's finished."

He will, however, continue to write his longstanding Yiddish column in the American *Algemeiner Journal*.

In 1960, Nurenberger founded *The Canadian Jewish News*. He published it, except for a two-and-a-half year period when he acted only as editor, until 1971, when it was purchased by a group of community leaders headed by the late Ray Wolfe.

Nurenberger was born in Cracow, Poland in 1911. Educated in France, he began his newspaper career in Yiddish journalism in Brussels.

Fearing war, he fled to New York in 1939, where he worked at the *Jewish Morning Journal*, for whom he had freelanced from Europe. He became editor in 1947.

In 1957, he was named editor of the *Der Yiddisher Zhurnal (The Hebrew Journal)*, which had been purchased by a group of Toronto leaders of the Herut Party, then headed by Menachem Begin.

The paper was sold two years later. With the help of Labor Zionist Kalman Berger, Nurenberger then started *The Canadian Jewish News*. Its first issue came out on Jan. 1, 1960.

Four years after selling *The CJN* in 1971, and after an unsuccessful attempt to start a paper in Israel, he began publishing *The Jewish Times*, which served as a vehicle for his outspoken, often caustic, opinions.

During his Canadian career, Nurenberger acquired a reputation as a knowledgeable journalist, but undisciplined and partisan. He unabashedly supported the Likud Party in Israel, and the Conservatives in Canada. His attacks on the leadership of the community, and *The CJN* under its new owners, were often savage.

He never apologized for or denied his biases and prejudices.

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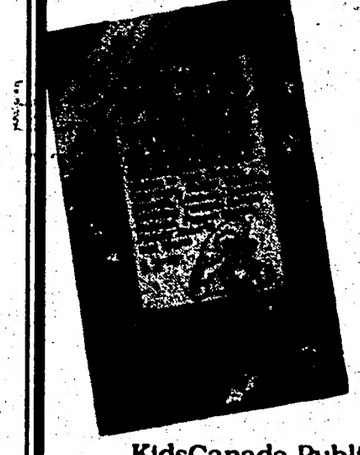

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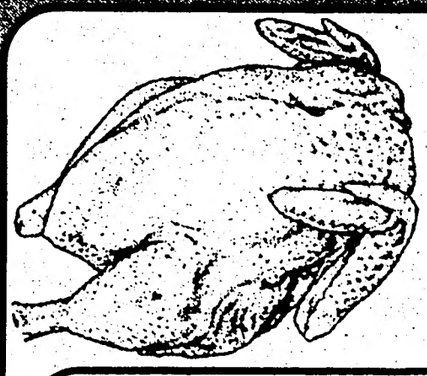

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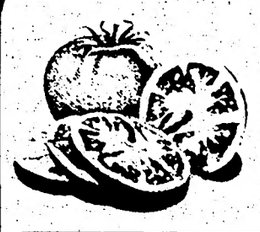

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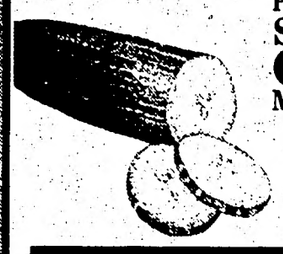

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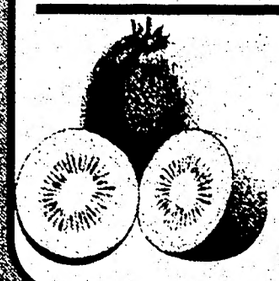

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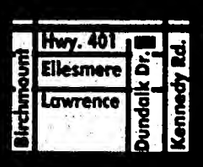

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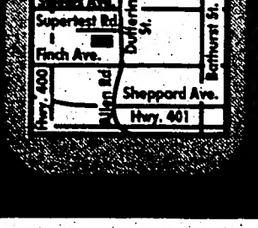

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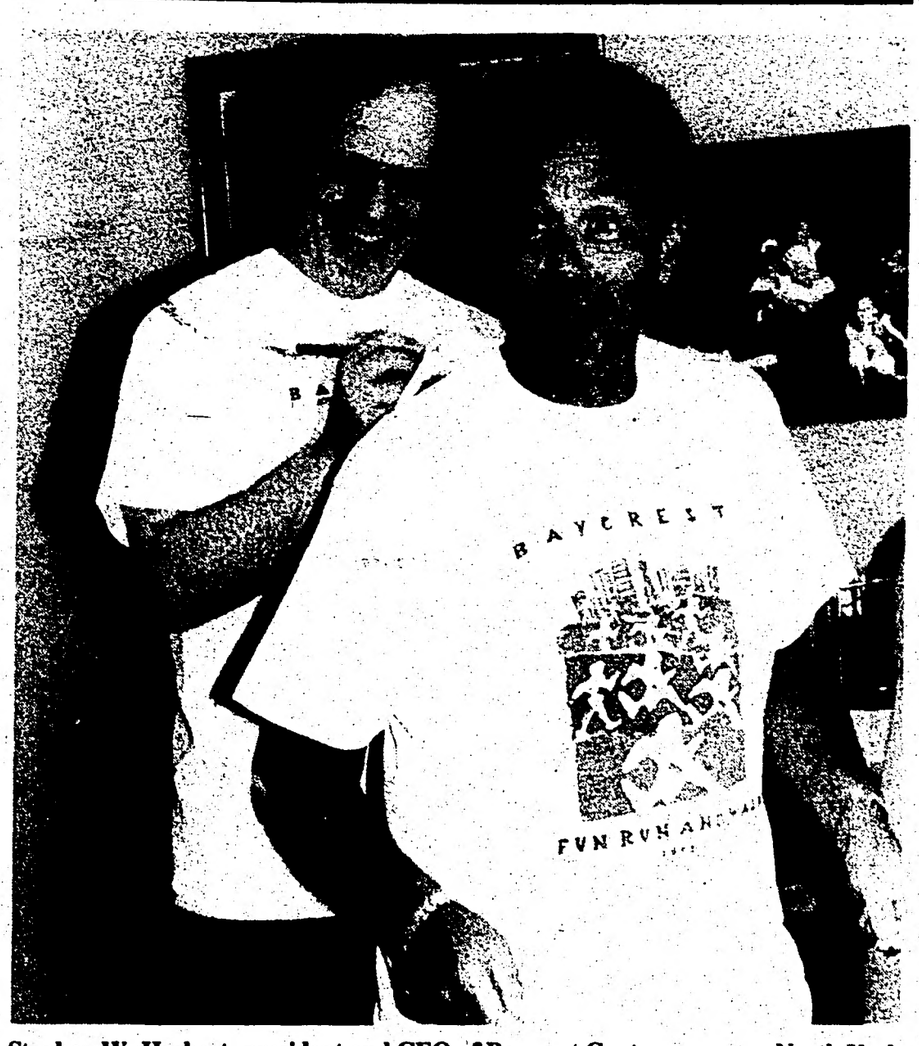

Stephen W. Herbert, president and CEO of Baycrest Centre, sponsors North York Mayor Mel Lastman for the Baycrest Fun Run and Walk May 10.

Baycrest hits the streets

TORONTO —

North York Mayor Mel Lastman and his family will be first out of the starting blocks for the 5-kilometre walk that is part of the 12th annual Baycrest Fun Run and Walk, which takes place on Mother's Day, May 10.

Organizers predict that the walk — a new addition to the event, formerly called the Baycrest Fun Run — will see more people than ever before participating.

"While the 10-km and 5-km runs attract many running enthusiasts, the 5-km walk enables virtually anyone to come and take part," says John Nussbaum, chairman of the Fun Run and Walk, a fundraiser sponsored by the Men's Service Group.

Last year organizers experimented with a 3-km walk, but for 1992 the new 5-km walk will follow the same route as the 5-km run, says Nussbaum, but will be a noncompetitive event for people of all ages.

There will be no awards for the walk, but everyone who registers will have a chance to win a luxury weekend for two at The King Edward Hotel in Toronto.

Turning the Fun Run and Walk into a family day is also the reason behind the first Tiny Tot. Aimed at kids under five and their parents, this event will be part of the expanded kids' carnival that will include clowns, games and pony rides.

This year's activities will also include an aerobation. Al Green of Body Alive Studios, along with 12 of Toronto's best aerobics instructors, will lead a three-hour aerobics marathon that will feature prizes every 15 minutes.

The aerobathon start at 8 a.m., the 5-km run starts at 9 a.m., the 10-km run at 9:30 a.m. and the walk at 9:35 a.m. Registration is $15 before the day and $20 on the day. All registered participants receive a T-shirt, a post-race snack pack and a certificate of completion.

For more information, call the Fun Run and Walk Hotline at 781-8878.

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Organizations and People

Arab countries discovering benefits of peace: Ben-Dor

By
RANDI DRUZIN

TORONTO —

Peace in the Middle East is becoming a greater possibility as "Syrians discover that it's better to consume hamburgers, to write on computers and to play games of Nintendo," Gabriel Ben-Dor, professor of political science at Haifa University, said in a recent lecture at Holy Blossom Temple.

"Israel can have peace with her Arab neighbors," he added, "when peace is as important a commodity to Arabs because they want to be a part of the Western world — the McWorld."

And that, he said, is exactly what is happening.

"We cannot change the Arab world overnight," he conceded, "but change is taking place. Twenty years ago, who would have thought that an Egyptian leader would make a state visit to Israel, or that Soviet communism would cease to exist? If the former USSR can become part of the McWorld, why not Iraq and Syria?"

However, Ben-Dor explained that the Arab world has traditionally embraced a set of values very different from Israel's and our own. "Islamic fundamentalists don't fear war the way we do," he said. "According to their culture and theology, this life is not as important as the afterlife. To die in martyrdom, fighting for a cause, ensures them a better existence in the afterlife," he said. "Though their actions seem irrational to us, according to their set of values, their actions are perfectly rational."

Ben-Dor said these cultural differences have made it difficult for Israel to avoid war with her Arab neighbors. He said Israel's threat of aggression — deterrence — "poses a cultural problem" for Arab states because "it offends their sense of honor," while any conciliatory measures — reassurance — are viewed by Arabs as a sign of weakness.

Ben-Dor said the problem will dissipate as Arab countries become westernized. He said Israel will be better able to use measures of both deterrence and reassurance in avoiding conflict with her Arab neighbors as both sides begin to establish a common set of values — "as Jihad is phased out, and McWorld is phased in."

Community seder in Kelowna

KELOWNA, B.C. —

Fourteen children joined in to say the Manishtana at the community seder of the Okanagan Jewish Community, held on the second night of Passover at the Coast Royal Anne Hotel.

Ninety-five people attended the event, representing about 20 families and guests from the area.

The seder was conducted by the religious chairman, Ron Gold, and the program was co-ordinated by Alvin Lander. A ladies' choir comprising Leslie Singleton, Connie Dickson and Lily Lander added to the evening's enjoyment.

Mel Kotler, fundraising chairman of the Okanagan Jewish Community Centre, handed out "afikoman gelt" and was able to accumulate five pounds of afikoman.

Kotler said in a note to *The CJN* that the community seder has become "a favorite happening of the OJC and one that is not only well attended but in which everybody participates."

Kotler will be honored at a "fundraiser for a fundraiser" dinner at the Capri Hotel here on June 2.

Proceeds will go to help complete the Jewish community centre building. Kotler says: "Support would be greatly appreciated from small communities across Canada." Donations can be sent to the Okanagan Jewish Community at P.O. Box 544, Station 'A', Kelowna, B.C. V1Y 7P2.

BBC EXTENDS SOLIDARITY

B'nai Brith Canada leaders extended their solidarity to the Turkish Jewish community following terrorist acts. Frank Dimant, executive vice-president, B'nai Brith Canada, is seen in Istanbul in front of the Neve Salom Synagogue, a target for terrorist activity.

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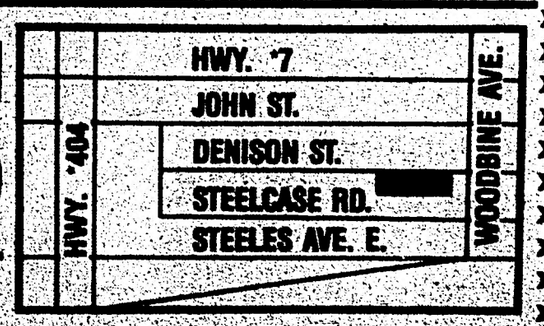

Organizations and People

Variety Clubs to fete Winnipeg organizer

By
MYRON LOVE

WINNIPEG —
On May 17, Louis Trepel, vice-president in charge of advertising for Winnipeg-based Ben Moss Jewellers Ltd., will be rubbing shoulders with the likes of movie stars Sean Connery, Roger Moore, Douglas Fairbanks Jr., Michael Caine and Audrey Hepburn.

The occasion will be Variety Clubs International's 1992 convention in New York City and Trepel is one of 40 Variety Club members worldwide who will be receiving the organization's prestigious Presidential Citation presented each year for outstanding achievement on behalf of Variety Clubs International.

Trepel is proud of the recognition but, for a man who has always preferred to do his good works outside of the limelight, he is a little surprised.

Variety Clubs International was formed in Pittsburgh originally in 1927 by show business performers as a men's club. A baby dropped on their doorstep on Christmas eve, 1928, changed the purpose of the club and pointed it toward what it has become — a worthwhile organization with over 60 branches and over 20,000 members dedicated to helping disabled and disadvantaged children.

The Winnipeg chapter — The Variety Club of Manitoba — Tent 58 Inc. — received its official charter in April, 1979. Among the founding members were the teenaged Louis Trepel and his father, Sidney (chairman and CEO of the family-owned Ben Moss Jewellers).

"Gene Telpner (a well-known Winnipeg-based entertainment columnist for *The Jewish Post and News* and other publications) was our first chief barker," Trepel recalls. "Monty Hall and Gene (Telpner) got the ball rolling by finding the necessary number of people to sign the charter and become members." (The Winnipeg branch has about 350 members.)

Trepel became active first in Young Variety. As a member of the board of directors, he chaired many fundraising events. In recent years, he has chaired Gold Heart Day — the Variety Club's annual fundraising Valentine's week promotion — and has assumed the responsibility for bringing in American celebrities for the yearly telethon. Trepel gets the most pleasure though just from taking deprived children on outings.

"I don't need to be at centre stage." he says. "Others can have the credit and recognition. For me, the reward is seeing the faces of children light up when they are able to do things they usually can't do."

Trepel's low-key approach is also in evidence in the good works he does in the Jewish community. He does some marketing and public relations work for the Combined Jewish Appeal but much of his contribution is in what he describes as "special situations," quietly helping individuals in the community in need who are directed to him.

"Not everyone can make large financial contributions," he says, "but everyone can contribute their time. If everybody gave a little of their time to help someone or an organization, this would be a better world. You get more out of giving if you look at what giving does for you inside."

Attending the BBWI convention were BBW/C delegates (from left) Marcia Gurman, immediate past president; Mitzi Dickstein, vice-president; Gloria Levitt, president; Ruth Rose, past president; Perry Krowitz, executive director; and Nancy Cooperberg, past president.

BBW/C chapter honored

TORONTO —

B'nai Brith Women of Canada's Sha'aron chapter of Toronto received the International Chapter of the Year Award at the recent B'nai Brith Women International (BBWI) biennial convention held in Chicago.

The prestigious award is given to one chapter in North America which has proven to be outstanding in the areas of fundraising, programming, leadership and membership. The award, a first for a Canadian chapter, was accepted by Gloria Levitt, BBW/C president. She was one of three delegates belonging to Sha'aron chapter.

Delegates also witnessed the installation of the BBWI 1992-94 national executive board. Joan Kort of Overland Park, Kansas, was installed as BBWI president at a gala banquet.

Among the various sessions held during the conference was a panel on family violence. Featured were nationally acclaimed speakers Lenore Walker, a licensed psychologist and director of the Domestic Violence Institute in Denver; SuEllen Fried, founder of the Metropolitan Kansas City STOP Violence Coalition, and Sherry Berliner Dimarsky, executive director of Shalva, an organization that provides legal services to victims of abuse in Chicago. The 500-plus delegates to the convention passed a resolution reaffirming the organization's commitment to end family violence.

B'nai Brith Women, with more than 100,000 members in the United States and Canada, works locally, nationally and internationally to strengthen the effectiveness of women in the Jewish community and in society; to foster the emotional well-being of children; and to perpetuate Jewish values and secure world Jewry.

B'nai Brith Women of Canada has chapters for women of all ages. For more information call (416) 630-9313.

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Ontario examining changes to seniors' drug benefit plan

By
BEN ROSE

TORONTO —

The Ontario government may drop non-prescription items from the approved list of drug benefits for those 65 and older, a meeting of seniors at Wagman Centre was told recently.

This would mean that seniors would no longer receive free a long list of digestive remedies, vitamins and other items, said Barry Phillips, owner of a Shoppers Drug Mart store, said.

It is also possible that the government, in an effort to cut costs, would no longer pay for substitute drugs which a doctor orders for the patient, but which are not on the official list, Phillips said.

Other measures which the government is considering include dropping the more expensive drugs for a condition, even if they have fewer side effects, according to Phillips, a past president of the Ontario Pharmacy Association.

A user fee is another route the ministry may take, he said, as well as a capitation scheme under which a senior would link up with a specific pharmacy and the government would pay that pharmacy a monthly fee instead of a dispensing fee for each prescription as it does now.

Phillips said there is a popular notion that seniors are responsible for the rise in the cost of drug benefits under the plan from $105.6 million in 1978-79 to about $1 billion in 1991-92. But most of the increase has resulted from an increase in the number of family benefit and welfare claimants receiving benefits, from 471,000 in 1988-89 to 1.3 million in 1991-92, or triple the earlier number.

On the other hand, the number of old age security recipients has grown only from 995,800 to 1.2 million in the same period, or about 25 percent.

The fees paid to pharmacists for dispensing account for only 1.2 percent of the increase in that time, he said.

On the general subject of health services for seniors, Jane Leitch, president of Alliance for Long-Term Care, said: "The government is talking about user fees for some health services and that makes us nervous."

She said seniors are fearful that hospital beds will be closed down before improved services for home care are in place and "we'll be caught in between."

The ministry should spend some of the proposed $647 million increase "up front" to take care of current needs, instead of postponing most of its expenditure until 1997. For example, she said, there are chronic care hospitals which do not have oxygen or proper rehabilitation services.

Dental care in nursing homes, or a travelling dental van coming right to the home, are a must, Leitch said, because many seniors are not well enough to go to the dentist.

The ministry has not disclosed what it intends to do in the way of respite for caregivers if the home care program is expanded as proposed.

The Alliance has suggested to the ministry that doctors should prescribe only a small amount of a drug at first to see if the patient suffers side effects, before prescribing a regular amount.

Lianne Carnwarth, Toronto area manager with Community Health and Support Services, also took part in the program which was sponsored by Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care.

Rabbi Dratch takes over at Shaarei Shomayim

By
RON CSILLAG

TORONTO —

The newest member of Toronto's rabbinic community has taken over the pulpit at Shaarei Shomayim Congregation.

Rabbi Mark Dratch, 33, started his new position May 3, only days after arriving from New York City, where he served as associate rabbi at Congregation Kehilath Jeshurun since 1990.

Rabbi Dratch was introduced to congregants at a meeting the following evening.

Rabbi Henry Hoschander, who was Shaarei Shomayim's spiritual leader for 20 years, will be on sabbatical until this December and then retire, the synagogue's president, Phil Binhaker, told *The CJN*.

Following his retirement, Rabbi Hoschander will serve as senior scholar of the Rabbi Henry Hoschander Centre for Religious Studies, an endowment that will fund Torah study and extra classes in religion at the shul, Binhaker added.

Born in Philadelphia, Rabbi Dratch received smicha (ordination) from Yeshiva University's Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological Seminary (RIETS) in 1982 after obtaining a master's degree in Jewish education and a bachelor's degree in political science, both from Yeshiva U.

His first pulpit was at Congregation Agudath Sholom in Stamford, Ct. He then served at the Boca Raton Synagogue in Florida and at Congregation Beth Israel in Schenectady, N.Y. before coming to Congregation Kehilath Jeshurun, an 850-member synagogue in upper Manhattan.

"The reputation of Toronto's Jewish community and of Shaarei Shomayim are international," Rabbi Dratch told *The CJN* in a telephone interview. "It's a vibrant community and I'm excited about the job."

Despite his relative youth, Rabbi Dratch tallies a long list of communal achievements. While in Florida, he helped found JACS, a support group for chemically-dependent and alcoholic Jews.

Ran programs

He ran programs for developmentally disabled Jewish clients of a centre in Schenectady and today represents the Rabbinical Council of America to the National Jewish Committee of the Boy Scouts of America.

Rabbi Dratch is married to Sarah Lamm, daughter of Rabbi Norman Lamm, president of Yeshiva University. The couple has one daughter, Tova, age 3.

Correction

In the April 23 issue of *The CJN* Jamie Slavens was incorrectly identified in the photo Making Plans as Jamie Sable. *The CJN* regrets the error.

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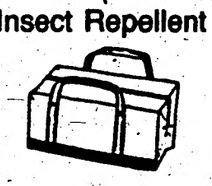

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Organizations and People

BGU Associates chapter bucks recessionary trend

By
BILL GLADSTONE

TORONTO —

Six months into its fiscal year, the Toronto chapter of the Canadian Associates of Ben-Gurion University has raised more than half of its goal of $1.1 million for the year, despite the recession.

"We're right on target," said Aly Larson, president of the organization's Ontario region, at the recent annual general meeting. "Our board of directors has refused to be intimidated by these tough times."

Held at a downtown art gallery, the meeting was enhanced by the work of Israeli artist Dorrit Yacoby, who similarly refuses to be intimidated by tough times. Yacoby, who lives in Arad, near the Dead Sea, produced most of the canvases in the room during the Gulf War.

Filled with images of pain, fear and chaos, Yacoby's multi-leveled mixed media creations are heavily laden with paint, tar and glue. Many feature torn fragments of canvas, paper, glass, staples, tea bags, even the bootlaces of her son, an army conscript.

Currently studying philosophy at BGU, Yacoby has pledged to give the university 20 percent of the proceeds of all sales realized during the show.

One sample work, *Two Flowers and A Shoelace*, is ticketed at $4,000, a medium price.

Appropriately entitled War Signals, the collection will be on display at the Arnold Gottlieb Gallery, 80 Spadina Ave., until May 11.

At the meeting, Larson was reinstalled as president of the Ontario region of the Canadian Associates of the Ben-Gurion University.

Other officers are: Valerie Fine, Robert Goldberg and Paul Jacobs, vice-presidents; Marty Offman, treasurer; Nani Beutel, secretary; Austin Beutel, assistant secretary; Barry Lipson, honorary legal counsel; and Dr. Charles Hollenberg, academic liaison. National president is Rabbi Jordan Pearlson.

For further information call 665-8054 or fax 665-8055.

Prof. Yitzhak Gutterman (left), head of the desert plant ecophysiology and introduction unit, shows Soviet scientists the rapidly growing cactus and other desert plants he has developed at BGU's Institute for Desert Research.

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Eli Zborowski addressed a gathering at the Yad Vashem Holocaust Memorial in Earl Bales Park the morning after the Yom Hashoah VeHagvurah service.

BAYT candles lit for children

[Cont'd. from page 2]

Members of the Jewish War Veterans of Canada's Toronto Post presented and retired the colors.

A torch lit by the flame from the Yad Vashem Holocaust Memorial in Earl Bales Park was brought in and passed symbolically by Canadian Society officials and Holocaust survivors Alex Eisen, Peter Silverman and David Smuschkowitz.

From that torch, six candles were lit for the Holocaust's victims, the 1.5 million children who perished, Jewish partisans and resistance fighters, the Allied armed forces, the Righteous Among the Nations and one by members of the second and third generation.

A children's choir rendered songs in Yiddish while K'El Maleh Rachamim and Zog Nit Kein Mol were sung by BAYT member Kalman Weber.

The following morning, about 150 people gathered in the drizzle at the Yad Vashem Holocaust memorial in Earl Bales Park for a brief service that included the laying of wreaths by various community groups and landsmanshaften.

It was the first such service since the memorial was unveiled last summer.

Attending were MPPs Monte Kwinter and Charles Harnick. The day before, Harnick delivered a moving speech in the Ontario Legislature on the significance of Yom HaShoah, which was followed by a similar tribute by Citizenship Minister Elaine Ziemba.

Holocaust denial exists, David tells Beth Tikvah

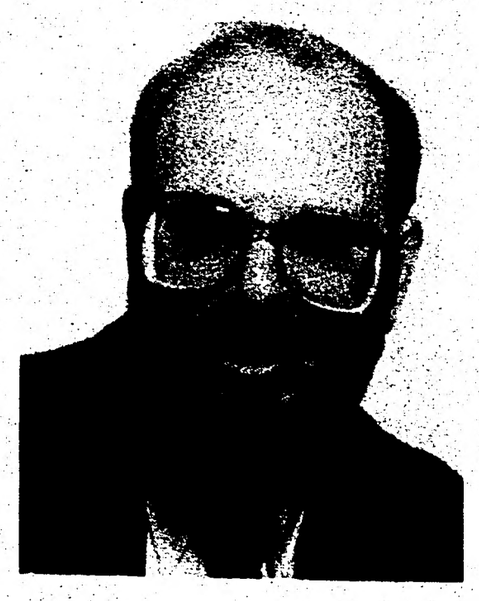
[Cont'd. from page 2]

Despite such tangible, gut-wrenching evidence, denial of the Holocaust still exists. Israeli Consul General Oren David exhorted those present to be strong and fortify the State of Israel. "We must do as much as we can to make sure that no man or nation will dare conceive a similar unspeakable idea," he said.

Rabbi Wayne Allen of Beth Tikvah delivered the opening prayer. The service included greetings from Jack Chisvin, president, Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto, and Jessica Wyman, chairman, Yom Hashoah committee; reciting of memorial prayers by Cantor Efraim Sapir; Holocaust poetry in Yiddish and English; and music including selections from Srul Irving Glick's Images of the Holocaust. Esther Ghan, soprano, and the Beth Tikvah Synagogue choir also performed.

In addition to the Miedemas, the following people participated in the candle lighting ceremony: Roman Zigler, survivor; Jack Ajzenberg, second generation; Arjella and Jules Samson, child survivors; Ted Waldman, war veteran; Lisa Lipkin, March of the Living participant; and Batia Gortler, a former hidden child.

* * *



Rabbi Wayne Allen

The commemoration, sponsored by the Holocaust remembrance committee of the Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto, was one of several held in Toronto last week. A service was also held at Adath Israel to commemorate Yom Hashoah. It was the first such service to be sponsored exclusively by Jewish youth groups.

JEWISH FEDERATION OF GREATER TORONTO ANNUAL MEETING

Celebrating 75 Years of Leadership

Tuesday, June 2, 1992
(Rosh Chodesh Sivan 5752)
7:30 p.m.
Leah Posluns Theatre
4588 Bathurst Street

The agenda will include:

Election of Federation officers and Executive Board members

Volunteer leadership award presentations
Sadowski Award of Merit to Kurt Rothschild

Leadership Development Awards to Gloria Clamen and Sheldon Disenhouse

Shem Tov Awards

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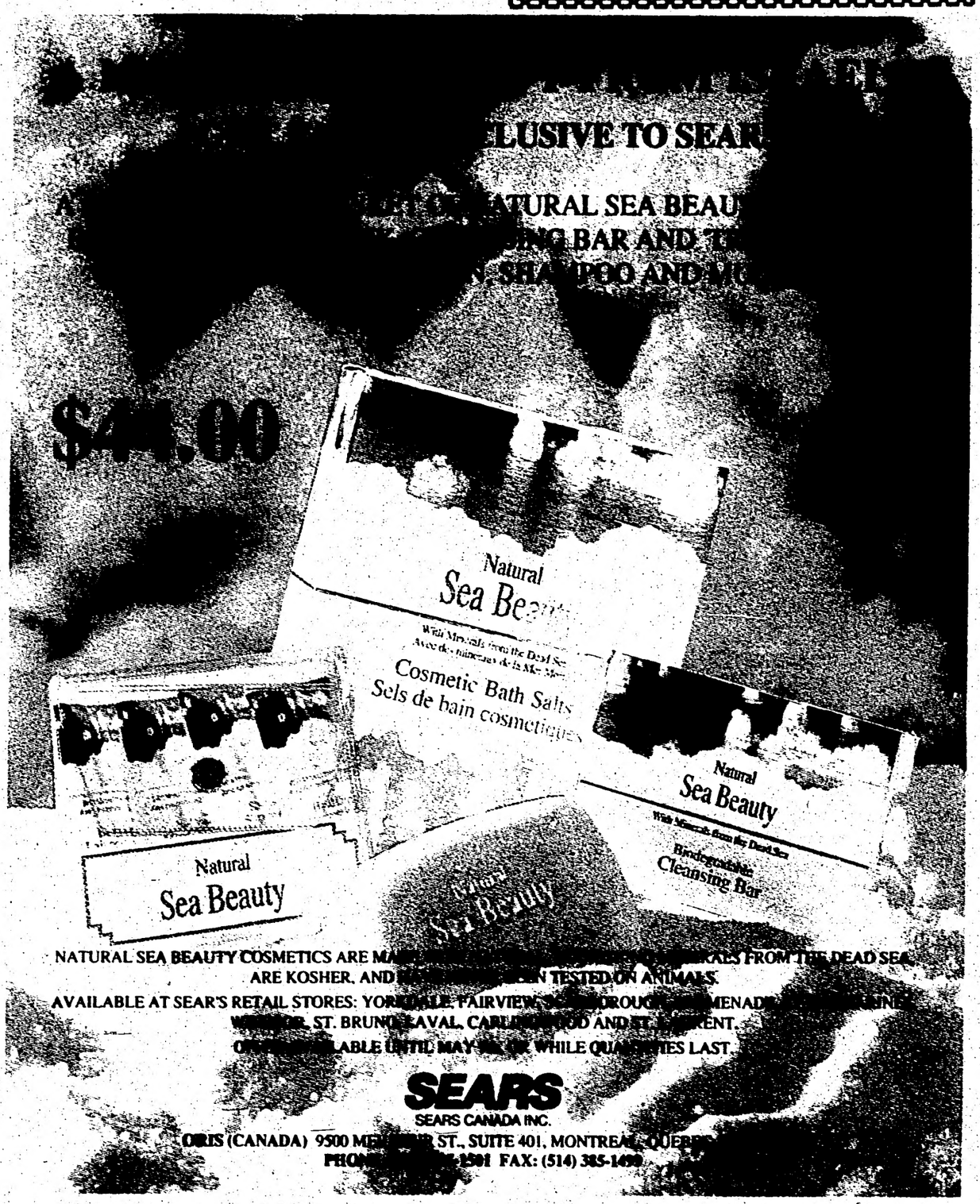


Organizations and People

What's New

By
MIRIAM HERMAN

DEADLINE REMINDER

DEADLINE REMINDER

The deadline for What's New and About People is Thursday, two weeks prior to publication date (i.e. Thursday, May 7, is deadline for May 21 issue, and Thursday, May 14, is deadline for May 28 issue). I am at my desk on Thursdays only to receive your calls and sort my mail.

Thursday, May 7

CENTRE FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING

An open house on Thursday, May 7, from 2-6 p.m. at Sunnybrook Centre for Creative Living will feature demonstrations of the latest technology in artificial limbs and hearing aids.

Friday, May 8

BEACH SYNAGOGUE SERVICE

You are invited to join the Shabbat service, Friday, May 8, at 7:30 p.m. at the Beach Synagogue, 109 Kenilworth Ave. Following the service, there will be a celebration of Israel's birthday with food, singing and dancing. Call 694-7942 for more information.

HAPPY MUSICAL AFTERNOON

At Terrace Gardens, 3705 Bathurst St., on Friday, May 8, from 2-3 p.m., pianist **Lola Julitta Burns** and singer **Lillian Keltz** will appear in a program featuring semi-classical, popular, Hebrew and Jewish music.

Sunday, May 10

CONTEMPORARY FAMILY ISSUES

The adult education and social action committees of Congregation B'nai Torah are presenting a two-lecture series by **Sarah Channa Radcliffe** on Contemporary Family Issues. The first lecture takes place Sunday, May 10, when the topic will be How to Have a Good Fight With Your Spouse.

The time is 8:15 p.m. at the synagogue, 465 Patricia Ave. Admission is free.

THE ART OF SURVIVAL

On Sunday, May 10, at 8 p.m., author **Yaffa Eliach**, (*Chassidic Tales of the Holocaust*), will give a lecture at Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Congregation on The Art of Survival. This is co-sponsored by the Holocaust education committee of Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto and the synagogue's continuing education committee.

TEMPLE SINGERS FUNDRAISER

A fundraiser to assist Holy Blossom Temple Singers' participation in this summer's international choral Zimryah in Israel is a Mother's Day art show, sale and auction on Sunday, May 10, from 6-10 p.m. at the temple. There will also be door prizes, entertainment and refreshments. Admission is $5.

CAMP BILUIM PARENTS MEETING

Camp Biluim Canada parents meeting will be held Sunday, May 10, at 7:30 p.m. at the Zionist Building, 788 Marlee Ave. Leaders and directors will be on hand to discuss the Biluim Leadership Institute Program. Parents and campers will be welcomed by Biluim director **Gadi Anavi** who will be visiting from Montreal.

Monday, May 11

BB PRESIDENT TO SPEAK

B'nai Brith president **Marilyn Wainberg** will be the guest speaker at the annual Sharon Cole Memorial Evening, sponsored by Club Dayan, Na'amat, Monday, May 11, at 8 p.m. at Temple Sinai.

SISTERHOOD MEETING

Find out everything you wanted to know about wardrobe planning at Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Sisterhood's Brides' Night and Mother's Day celebration featuring Braemar Fashions on Monday, May 11, at 8 p.m. at the synagogue. Hostess for the evening is **Edith Barsky**. Admission is $2 members, $3 guests. For information, call the synagogue office at 633-3838.

JEWISH SPIRITUALITY

Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am and Adath Israel Congregations joint adult education series on Jewish Spirituality continues Monday, May 11, at 8 p.m. when **Rabbi Wayne Allen** will discuss Kashrut: Are We What We Eat? The time is 8 p.m. at Beth David B'nai Israel.

The Joy of Singing, led by **Cantor Moti Zingboim**, follows at 9:15 p.m.

FAMILIES OF GAYS AND LESBIANS

The next meeting of the Support Group for Families of Gays and Lesbians takes place Monday, May 11, at 7:30 p.m. at Holy Blossom Temple. Call in confidence to **Ruth** at 763-9111.

Tuesday, May 12

EUTHANASIA

Euthanasia: A Halachic Perspective is the topic of the public lecture to be given by **Dr. Fred Rosner**, Queen's Hospital Centre, N. Y., and assistant dean at Albert Einstein College of Medicine, on Tuesday, May 12, at 8 p.m. at Chabad Lubavitch Community Centre, 770 Chabad Gate, Thornhill. Cover charge is $5. Call 731-7000 for information.

BONDS LUNCHEON

Women's Division, State of Israel Bonds, is holding the annual Sponsor Luncheon on Tuesday, May 12, at 12:30 p.m. at the home of **Elise Kalles**. Couvert is $36. There are many door prizes, including a round-trip ticket to Israel.

For further information and reservations, call **Gail** at the Bonds office at 789-3351.

MORNING STUDY GROUP

The Holy Blossom Temple Tuesday Morning Study Group session on May 12 will focus on Between Hammer and Anvil: Jewish Ukranian Relations in the 20th Century with **Henry Abramson**, PhD candidate at the University of Toronto. The time is 9:45-11:30 a.m. Babysitting is available. For information, call **Rhonda** at 663-3812.

CAMP SOLELIM MEETING

Camp Solelim parents and campers meeting takes place Tuesday, May 12, at 7:30 p.m. at the Zionist Building, 788 Marlee Ave. Rookies and their parents as well as first-time Solelimniks will be welcomed by camp director **Shmuel Levkovitz** and his staff, who will discuss the camp program.

KOSHER COOKING SCHOOL

The Kosher Cooking School, sponsored by the Kashruth Council of Toronto, is presenting a session entitled Pasta Pasta on Tuesday, May 12, at 8 p.m. at Shaarei Tefillah Congregation. The fee is $15. Call 635-9550 for information.

T'NACH STUDY GROUP

On Tuesday, May 12, the T'nach Study Group will deal with Kings I, Chapter 2, with **Rachel Rosenberg Niemtsovich**. The time is 8:15 p.m. at Associated Hebrew Schools, 3630 Bathurst St.

Wednesday, May 13

TWO MODELS OF KINGSHIP

The annual Ronald Heller Memorial Lecture, presented by the Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto (CHAT) on Wednesday, May 13, features **Rabbi David Silber**, founder/director of the Drisha Institute for Jewish Education, who will speak on David and Saul: Two Models of Kingship. The time is 8:15 p.m. at CHAT, 200 Wilmington Ave. The public is invited to attend.

THE JEWISH FAMILY

At Beth Tikvah Synagogue, on Wednesday, May 13, at 8 p.m., the second session of the Frances Bitterman Memorial Lecture series on The Jewish Family will be presented by **Prof. Selma Sage** of York University. Her topic is Biblical Roots of the Jewish Family. The community is welcome and admission is free.

FASHION SHOW AND TEA

Help in the care of at-risk newborns in the neonatal intensive care unit at Shaare Zedek Medical Centre in Jerusalem by attending Canadian Shaare Zedek Hospital Foundation's annual fashion show and tea on Wednesday, May 13, at 1 p.m. at Vaughan Estate (Sunnybrook Hospital grounds), featuring spring and summer imports by Gente Boutique Ltd., and Bianca Neve Children's Boutique, boutiques and door prizes. Couvert is $36 (tax receipt). For more information and to receive your special invitation, call the Foundation office at 781-3584.

PASSPORT TO FREEDOM

Lottery committee members present at the recent third annual Passport to Freedom Lottery Draw were (from left) Mendel Dubov, Michael Molilevsky, chairman David Chapley, Lez Zigelman, Michael Elinson and Rabbi Yoseph Zaltzman. Lottery winners were Dr. M. Shane ($10,000), M. Shmushkovich ($5,000) and M. Green ($1,800). Part of these winnings were contributed back to the Jewish Russian Community Centre of Toronto by the winners.

LUNCH AND LEARN

Holy Blossom Temple's Lunch and Learn in Retirement Group will be meeting on Wednesday, May 13, at noon, at the temple when lawyer **John Campion** will discuss the Federal Government and the Constitution — An Examination of Initiatives. Bring your lunch. Coffee, tea and cookies are provided. For information, call **Deborah** at 789-3291.

JEWISH/GENTILE INTERACTION

Rabbi Steven Cohen of Kehillat Shaarei Torah delivers a Talmud shiur in Tractate Avoda Zara examining the concerns of Jewish relationships with the gentile world. The class meets on the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month at 8 p.m. at the shul. Call 229-2600 to register. The next session is May 13.

Thursday, May 14

JEWISH RUSSIAN COMMUNITY

A parlor meeting on behalf of the Jewish Russian Community of Toronto is being held at the home of **Herb and Joyce Green**, 72 Green Acres Rd., Thornhill, on Thursday, May 14, at 8 p.m. Guest speaker is **Mendel Green**.

AIDS ASSIST

The AIDS committee of Holy Blossom Temple and Jewish Family & Child Service announce AIDS Assist, a volunteer training program for practical assistance and AIDS buddy support. The program takes place at the temple and involves 18 hours of training.

An orientation and information evening is set for Thursday, May 14, at 8 p.m. at the temple. For more information, contact **Cindy Hershon-Zackon**, co-ordinator, Department of Family Living, at 789-3291.

And What Else Is New...

SHABBAAT STUDY LUNCHEON

The Beth Tzedec Shabbat Luncheon on May 16 at noon, following services, features **Prof. Baruch Levine**, who will speak on the Wilderness Period: New Perspectives.

Reservations (paid) should be made no later than Tuesday, May 12. Unpaid reservations cannot be accommodated. Call the office at 781-3511.

CANADIAN PROFESSORS FOR PEACE

Canadian Professors for Peace in the Middle East will hold its 1992 annual national conference Sunday, May 24, at the Regal Constellation Hotel, 900 Dixon Rd. The theme is The Middle East 25 Years After the Six Day War. The conference will bring together principal scholars from Canada, the United States and Israel.

The panel begins at 9:30 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. Registration fee is $20 which includes buffet luncheon. The public is invited. For information, call 963-9477.

CANADIAN YOUNG JUDAEA

Canadian Young Judaea's national Hadracha '92, the annual learning experience held for staff of all its camps across Canada, takes place May 8-10 at Camp Shalom, Gravenhurst. Guest experts and speakers will be leading workshops.

P'Gisha '92 is set for May 22-24, also at Camp Shalom. This reunion meeting is a special event for campers to get together prior to going to their respective camps for the summer. Special programming will be prepared by senior groups and camp counsellors, after which there will be fun in the sun.

SERIES ON SPANISH JEWRY

Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue adult education committee is presenting a three-part lecture series on Spanish Jewry with **Rabbi Barry Schneider**. The dates are Wednesday, May 13, 20 and 27, at 8 p.m. at the synagogue. Everyone is welcome.

For information, call 633-3838.

TORONTO JEWISH FOLK CHOIR

The Yiddish song-cycle *Der Bobe's Cholem* (Grandmother's Dream) by **Mark Varshavsky** will be featured at the Toronto Jewish Folk Choir's 66th annual spring concert Sunday, May 24, at 3 p.m. at Bickford Education Centre, 777 Bloor St. W. Soloists will be lyric tenor **Cantor Louis Danto** and Soviet-trained soprano **Vera Kaushansky**. The choir is conducted by **David Varjabed** and accompanied by pianist **Lina Zemelman**. *Der Bobe's Cholem* will mark the 85th anniversary of Varshavsky's death in 1907.

For tickets and information, call 789-5502 days, 489-7681 or 633-8184 evenings and weekends.

DISCOVERY SEMINAR

Discovery Seminar, presented by Aish HaTorah in conjunction with Kehillat Shaarei Torah, aims to provide a thoughtful intelligent answer to the question "Why Be Jewish?". It is designed for Jewish men and women of all ages who have a sophisticated secular education but limited Jewish background in Jewish studies.

The seminar begins Sunday evening May 17, and continues through Monday, May 18, at Kehillat Shaarei Torah. Cost including meals and seminar materials is $59. For more information and to register, call 636-7530.

SECULAR JEWISH ORGANIZATIONS

The Congress of Secular Jewish Organizations (CSJO), a North American body consisting of 24 member organizations, is holding its 22nd annual conference May 22-25 at the University of Windsor. The agenda includes workshops, seminars, food, song, dance and chevreshaft with special programs for adults, young adults and teens.

For more information, call 889-7450.

AT THE KOFFLER GALLERY

On view at the Koffler Gallery, 4588 Bathurst St., are two exhibits — The Cabinet of Dr. Knoblauch, an exhibition of recent wall furniture by **Michele Macdonald**, and Personal Mysteries, an installation by **Dieter Hastenteufel**. Both exhibits run through June 24.

KOL YISROEL CONGREGATION

Kol Yisroel Congregation holds services every Saturday morning at 9:30 in the Borochov Cultural Centre, 272 Codsell Ave. Services are led by **Mark Biller**. A kiddush follows. Everyone is welcome.

[Cont'd. on page 33]

Organizations and People

What's New

[Cont'd. from page 32]

ART BY REENA CLIENTS

The Reena Foundation announces the opening of Vision, an exhibition of art by Reena clients, on Thursday, May 14, in the main lobby of the Jewish Community Centre, 4588 Bathurst St. The exhibit continues until May 25.

Three professional Canadian artists, **Joan Krawczyk, Barbara Nyman** and **Ruth Wieder** worked with developmentally handicapped adults in the art production program at Camp Reena and Reena day program last summer. The artists selected the most outstanding pieces to be displayed.

PLACEMATS FOR PASSOVER

Last February volunteer **Sandy Galet** contacted **Shana Harris**, principal of Bialik Hebrew Day School, with a request that her students create placemats to be delivered along with Kosher Meals on Wheels in time for Passover. As a result, the entire school was involved, including students, teachers and even office staff. The placemats would be given to clients of Senior Care, which supplies kosher meals to approximately 250 persons each day of the week.

To launch the project, a team of seven volunteers and staff from Senior Care came to the school to talk about volunteerism and Meals on Wheels. The paper placemats, donated by Metro Meals on Wheels, were colored, laminated and delivered to Senior Care clients.

JERUSALEM SCENES

During a sabbatical from a downtown Toronto law firm, lawyer **Richard Ungar** traded his briefcase for an easel (his words). Following two months in France, he spent the last three months in Jerusalem where he painted outdoor scenes of the city including Jewish religious areas.

These paintings and sketches are on view through May 24 at the Art on Bayview group show at Picture Only Us Gallery, 1592 Bayview Ave.

THEATRE MATINEE OUTING

Kinnerith Club, Na'amat, invites you to join in a theatre matinee outing for a performance of *Charlie's Aunt*, Wednesday, June 10, at the Shaw Festival, Niagara on the Lake.

Buses leave at 9:15 a.m. from Adath Israel Synagogue parking lot. The price is $45 with a $15 tax exempt receipt. Tickets are going fast, so call **Rita** at 783-1656 or **Norma** at 633-8276.

CAPE BRETON REUNION

If you are from Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Newfoundland or Prince Edward Island, be sure to attend the Cape Breton Jewish Club reunion slated for Saturday, May 30, at 8:30 p.m. at Earl Bales Community Centre. Admission is $15 and includes refreshments, music and entertainment. RSVP by May 8. Call 886-0029.

PARENT SUPPORT GROUP

Concerned about your teenagers? The Toronto North Parent Support Group meets every Wednesday evening. Call 221-1999 for further information.

SPEAK, READ, WRITE HEBREW

Keren Hatarbut Institute of Hebrew Studies, 788 Marlee Ave., is now accepting registration for its courses. The promise is that beginners will speak, read and write Hebrew in 15 sessions. There are free introductory private lessons for beginners.

All courses are under the supervision of **Joseph Klinger**. For consultation and registration, call 787-0197.

CYCLING '92

Hebrew Athletics has started Wednesdays at 7 p.m. and Sundays at 10:30 a.m. from the Glencairn subway station, weather permitting. Call 486-3304 to check.

CORRECTIONS

The award to the *Toronto Sun* at Beth Tzedec Congregation on Sunday, April 26 (April 23 issue) was presented by Beth Tzedec Congregation, Beth Tzedec Men's Club and the Israel action committee.

The Yom Hashoah observance held Wednesday, April 29, at Pride of Israel Temple was sponsored by the Canadian Holocaust Remembrance Association.

TO PERFORM AT CANTORS ASSEMBLY

Two Toronto cantors, **Louis Danto** of Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda and **Benjamin Maissner** of Holy Blossom Temple, will be featured performers at two of the four public concerts highlighting the 45th anniversary convention of the Cantors Assembly taking place May 10-14 at Fort Lauderdale, Fla.

at the JCC

The Bloor Y Twentysomething Downtowners Club has arranged brunch and a visit to the McMichael Gallery Sunday, May 10, at 11:30 a.m. Meet at the Jewish Community Centre North Y branch, 4588 Bathurst St., Room 210. Charge is $18 and reservation and payment must be made by May 7. Call **Luni** at 924-6211.

New at Bloor is a youth gym for 10 to 18-year-olds on Sundays from 2-6 p.m. with activities such as basketball, volleyball, floor hockey. This is free to JCC members.

for seniors

LZA Seniors Club is continuing registration for the western trip to the Canadian Rockies and Vancouver June 21-July 2, and also the trip to the Raleigh Hotel in the Catskills leaving July 26 and July 28. The dance group is held Tuesdays under the direction of **Millie Cass** and chairman **Libby Ravka**. To join, call Libby Ravka at 782-2059. The discussion group meets every Tuesday at 10 a.m. Daily ongoing activities continue with light lunches.

Holy Blossom Temple's **Lunch and Learn in Retirement Group** is having a meeting on financial planning and retirement options on Wednesday, May 27. Register in advance with **Deborah** at 789-3291.

Earl Bales Seniors' Club has a busy schedule including a Saturday dance May 9 from 7-10 p.m.; a movie Wednesday, May 13, at 2 p.m.; Mother's Day party and dance Sunday, May 10, from 7-11 p.m.; a cruise in Caledonia Tuesday, May 19, and other interesting trips to Stage West June 3, Niagara Falls June 16, Port Dalhousie July 7 and the Raleigh Hotel in the Catskills July 19-24. For details on activities and trips, call 636-7856.

Tha Wagman Centre Self-Help Widows Group, 55 years of age and over, meets every other Sunday to help each other deal with mourning and adjust to loss. The meetings provide a supportive environment where group members can share experiences and make new friends. The next meeting is May 10, from 1-2:30 p.m. in the library of the Wagman Centre, 55 Ameer Ave. Group co-ordinator is **Toby Warsh**. For information, contact **Paula David** at 789-5131, ext. 2271.

Mah Jong sets are needed for the Senior Adult Club at the Jewish Community Centre North Y branch. If you know of any sets, or own one that you no longer use, contact **Teme Kernerman** at 636-1880, ext. 364.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club's Mother's Day luncheon takes place Monday, May 25, at 12:30 p.m. (note change of date). Reservations are being taken for the ballet, *The Merry Widow* May 15 at O'Keefe Centre, the Catskill trip to the Homowack Hotel July 20-28, and also for three musicals at Art Park June 10, July 30 and Aug. 13. For details on all programs and trips, call **Lena** at 785-5773 or **Ruth** at 224-5923...Remember the Golden Book to mark special occasions. Your donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel. Call **Dorothy Bloomfield** at 787-1526.

Join **Young at Heart Seniors** deluxe trip to the Raleigh Hotel in the Catskills July 20-28 which includes trips to the Corning Factory, Atlantic City and Bingham, deluxe medical insurance, many goodies on the bus and lots more. The price is $885 Canadian. Partners available. For information, call **Helen** at 635-6343 after 7 p.m.

Thursday is seniors day at **North York Community House**, 3101 Bathurst St., with fitness classes from 10-11 a.m., current events discussions from 11 a.m. to noon, and lectures, bingo, bridge, other games from 1-3 p.m. For information, call 784-0920.

Everyone is welcome to join the senior citizen club **Hadar** which meets every Monday from noon to 4 p.m. at Garnet A. Williams Community Centre, 501 Clark Ave., Thornhill. For more information, call **Viola Landman** at 886-2625.

At the **Wagman Centre**, 55 Ameer Ave., Mixed Media Crafts with instructor **Sally Blackman** continues Monday, May 11, from 1-3 p.m. with quilting (with **Molly Franklin**), and on Thursday, May 14, from 9:30-11:30 a.m. with pin cushions. For information, call the centre at 789-5131, ext. 2267.

To inform seniors about how to cope with vision loss and retain independence, the Canadian National Institute for the Blind (CNIB) has set up Vision Resource Centre at Baycrest Centre. It runs to May 8.

CENTRE FOR CREATIVE LIVING

The Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living is located at 1003 Steeles Ave. W. The phone number is 225-2112.

The Lifelong Learning Institute (LLI) is offering a four-session talk and slide show series on Art Galleries of the World with **Edith Altschuler**, guide at the Art Gallery of Ontario, Wednesdays, May 6-27, from 1-2:30 p.m. No charge for members, $1 non-members.

La'Briyut Wellness Centre's two-part series on Getting the Right Help at the Right Time with seniors from Senior Care takes place Thursday, May 7 and 14, from 1:30-2:30 p.m.

Walk for the health of it! Join fellow seniors for health and fitness tips, a brisk walk and a cup of orange juice every Tuesday and Thursday at 9 a.m. sharp. Register with **Sandra Haberman** at the Wellness desk at 225-2112.

Music Appreciation features Part II of concert pianist **Mildred Bennet's** presentation, Music of the Classic Period, on Monday, May 11, at 1:30 p.m. Charge is $1 members, $2 non-members.

The ways and means committee is presenting a gala concert with **Jenny Eisenstein** accompanied by **Michael Khinkis** on Wednesday, May 20, at 7 p.m. Price is $3.

About People

LABOR HALL OF FAME

Harry Simon, a member of the Labor Zionist Movement, is one of the first inductees into the newly built Labor Hall of Fame. Located in the new headquarters building of Local 183 of the Laborer's Union , the hall of Fame honors founders and distinguished leaders of the Canadian Labor Movement.

Harry Simon

Chosen for his more than 60 years service to the movement, Simon joined the Fur Workers Union at the age of 17 and served as business agent, Canadian representative of the American Federation of Labor, on the staff of Canadian Labor Congress and as regional director of the CLC. He retired in 1974.

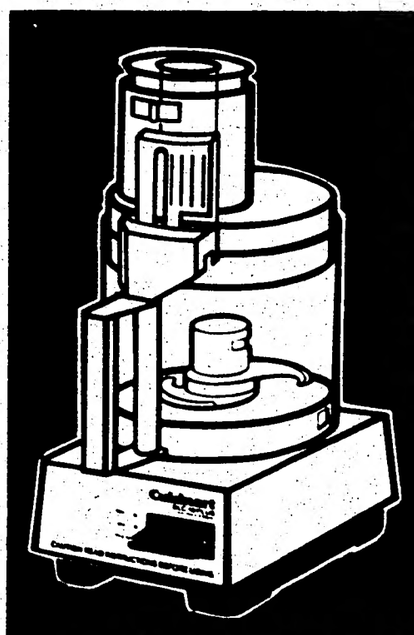
Ontario Minister of Labor **Robert Mackenzie** officially performed the induction in the Labor Hall of Fame on May 4.

BONDS LUNCHEON

Marian Unger Davis of Pittsburg will be the guest speaker at the annual sponsor luncheon for Women's Division, State of Israel Bonds. The luncheon will take place on May 12 at the residence of Elise Kalles. For further information, call Gail at 789-3351.

BBW OF TORONTO INSTALLATION

B'nai Brith Women of Toronto's 40th installation of officers took place recently at Shaar Shalom Synagogue, Thornhill. Pictured above is the new executive for 1992-93 (from left) Shavie Fagan, immediate past president; Linda Mendelsohn, vice-president; Marni Collier, president; Ethy Lebow, vice-president; and Helaine Finkelstein, president-elect.



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Organizations and People

Jews urged to aid Israel by giving less to charities

By
RANDI DRUZIN

TORONTO —

Canadian Jews can do more for Israel by giving less to charities such as the United Jewish Appeal, and by buying fewer Israeli bonds, says Israeli journalist Joel Bainerman.

"If you think that by donating to these charities you're handing lump sums of money to a cause, then you're being simplistic," Bainerman told an audience at Har Zion Temple in a recent lecture that was highly critical of the Israeli government. Most of the money, he said, simply "fuels the political wealth of Israeli policy makers."

Bainerman said the Israeli economy is fundamentally flawed because it is completely controlled by the government, and because public funds — including money raised through Israeli bonds and through government-affiliated charities such as the United Jewish Appeal — are mismanaged by politicians who make decisions "according to political rewards and not according to potential for the highest return."

Bainerman, a Toronto native and former economics editor of the *Jerusalem Post*, noted that the Israeli government controls 80 percent of the country's GNP and 93 percent of its land.

He said Israeli government officials have responded to the recent wave of immigration from Ethiopia and the former Soviet Union by making "sweetheart deals" with contractors to build apartments in which immigrants aren't willing to live. "These apartments have been built in rural areas. They're far from urban centres, far from potential jobs and far from transit lines," Bainerman said. "Most of them are empty."

He added that Israeli Housing Minister Ariel Sharon "is a great general but a terrible politican," because he has "squandered much of the country's wealth."

Bainerman also criticized the Israeli government's policy of granting industrial subsidies to foreign investors. "(The Israeli government) is bribing foreign investors who don't need to be bribed because they'd likely set up shop in Israel even without government incentives," Bainerman said. He explained that "Israel is on the cutting edge of technology.

"Israel could generate an $80-$90 billion economy no problem," Bainerman said.

Aphasia Centre to open

TORONTO —

The Aphasia Centre — North York (formerly the Speech and Stroke Centre) will celebrate the grand opening of its new building with an official ceremony and reception on May 14 at noon.

MP Stanley Knowles will officiate at the event which marks the centre's move into its expanded facility. "This building is a dream come true," says Pat Arato, the centre's founder and executive director. "We finally have the space to grow and get people off the waiting list and into our programs."

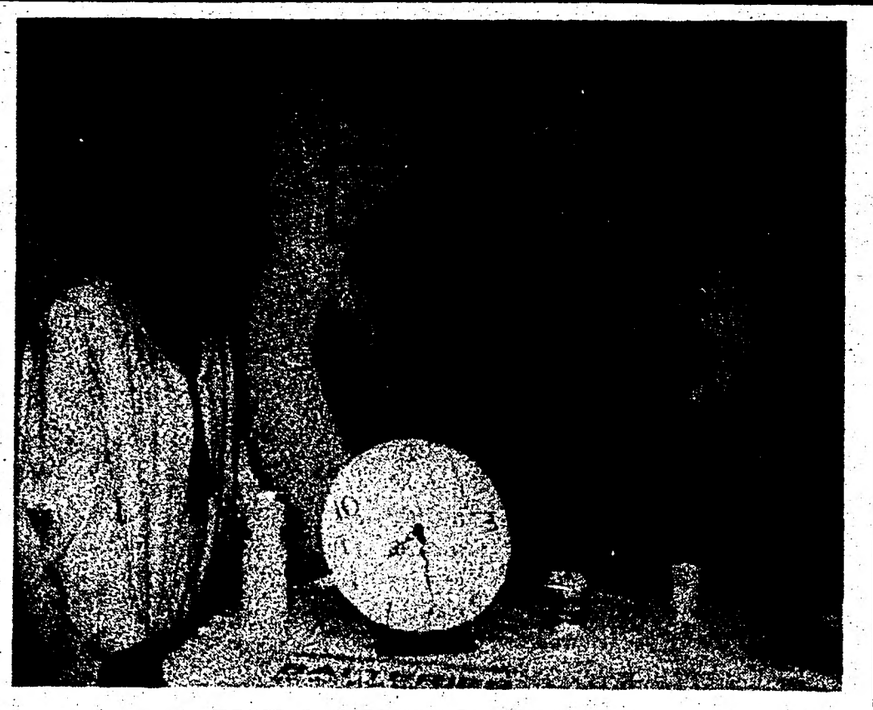
It's easy to understand why Arato is so keen to help aphasic adults and their families. When her husband Oscar had a stroke in 1978, she found there was no place she could turn to for help. "The prevailing attitude was that nothing could be done," she explains. Arato organized friends and family to help him around the clock, then formed a self-help group with several other couples in similar circumstances.

From this small crew of dedicated friends and relatives, the centre has developed into a professional organization with 5 speech-language pathologists, a small administrative staff, 95 volunteers and satellite centres in Stouffville and Ottawa.

Aphasia is a language problem caused by brain damage, due to illness (such as a stroke or brain tumor) or accident.

The Aphasia Centre, a community-based program, funded partially by the Ontario Ministry of Health, offers aphasic adults opportunities for conversation and long-term psycho-social support. It is a lifeline for members and their families as well.

The new facility at 53 The Links Road, North York, occupies 15,000 square feet of space divided into rooms for various activities. Because most victims also suffer from physical disabilities, the building has been outfitted with access ramps, special washrooms and furniture that can be used by people in wheelchairs. The decor is bright and airy, with lots of tall windows and green plants to create a cheerful atmosphere dedicated to lifting spirits and encouraging communication.



USDS SCIENCE SHARE

USDS students from Bayview campus Avi Mintz (centre) and Matthew Shulman (right) exhibit their experiment on batteries at the annual science exhibit. Cherie Sachar, a science teacher in the senior division, looks on.

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SINGLES EVENTS

Singles Events is an advertising feature of The Canadian Jewish News. ***Deadline is Monday, 5:00 p.m., 10 days preceding issue date.*** *For rates or to place an ad, please call Alan at 422-2528.*

Jou Jou Ages 25-40 presents a **House Party**. Saturday, May 23. 9:00pm. Dairy will be served. Advanced sales only- $10.00. Call 781-0939, limited space only. 9684

Toronto's Orthodox Singles presents a **Shevuos Weekend**, June 5-8 at The Rye Town Hilton (40 minutes from New York). For more information Sharon Ganz 785-0761, Ruth Balofsky 764-5833. 9681

Lishar/Felix Productions presents...
"The Party"
Sunday, May 17th, 1992
at Klub Max, 52 Peter Street
For more information call 480-0885
9919

Atideynu Lodge (20's and 30's) presents: Our 7th Annual "Installations" on Tuesday, May 12, 1992 at 7:30pm, 15 Hove St. Come join us for an evening of free refreshments, wine and cheese. Members $2.00, non-members $4.00. Contact Rob Shapiro, 882-5404. 9833

"La Party" rolls into Spring with their hottest one yet!D.Kerbel, C.Usher, L.Goodman present, once again, the incredible sounds of **"Reflections" Thursday May 21, 8:00pm**, at the Camelot/Merlins night club, 759 Mount Pleasant Road (1 block south of Eglinton). Dinner reservations available- 486-8147. $13.00 cover (first 100 people $12.00). Grand prize- Trip for 2 to the Concord Resort Hotel courtesy of the Concord Resort Hotel, New York. **Guest hosts** from City T.V., CHFI FM 98, and guest performer "Pierre Benard" from the cast of "Les Miserables".
A donation will be made to The Children's Wish Foundation. 9858

Attention Attention!!!
Party Changed to Thursday, May 14
The Flamingo Club would like to announce a sooner date for their first event. Keep Thursday, May 14 open. 8:00pm. Cover $10.00. At Jaguar, 212 King Street West. Prizes all night. Any questions call 565-3537.
9827

Come out to the JCC Valley's Singles Sensation, Tennis Round Robin and Dance. Sunday, May 17, 1992. 6:30-8:30pm. Marcia's Round Robin optional- 8:30pm on Music and Dancing. Enjoy fabulous door prizes, cash bar, candlelit coffee lounge, free parking and refreshments at 7015 Leslie Street. Cost $10.00 at the door. Call Nurit for more information ar Marcia to book your Round Robin at 889-0813. 9821

Would you like to spend the Victoria Day Long Weekend at a luxury resort, meeting new friends, and having the time of your life? If you would, then join **Metro Toronto Singles** at our 6th annual Clevelands House Resort weekend getaway May 15-18. Weekend includes: 3 nights deluxe accommodations, 8 gourmet meals, nightly live entertainment, sports, parties, relaxation, workshops and featuring an Israel Cancer Research fundraiser. Bus to and from resort available. **222-7111** for more information. 9920

Wine/Cheese House Party for singles 30-55. Thursday, May 14th. 8:30pm. $10.00.
Dance/Buffet Party. Saturday, May 16th. 8:30pm. $15.00.
Coming Events: Barbeque Garden Party, Cabaret Night. Sonia 771-8448. 9890

"The Party You've Been Waiting For"
If you ever have missed a party, don't miss The Flamingo Club. Thursday, May 14th, at Jaguar, 212 King Street West. 8:00pm. Cover $10.00. A night you'll never forget. Details 565-3537 anytime. 9918

Metro Toronto Singles presents our second annual May Long Weekend Party at **Berlin**, 2335 Yonge Street (north of Eglinton). **Sunday, May 17th. 8:00pm.** Cover $10.00. Last year, over 500 people attended. **Blue Jay tickets for the first 25 people.** If you liked our Christmas Eve Party, you'll love our May long weekend party here. **222-7111** for information. 9921

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Plenary looks back to '67 war

TORONTO —

The Six Day War and the 500th anniversary of the expulsion of the Jews from Spain will be the backdrop Wednesday evening, May 20, at the gala opening of the 23rd Canadian Jewish Congress National Plenary Assembly at Toronto's Regal Constellation Hotel. Plenary chairman Carol Kassel has announced that the community-at-large is invited to attend this program free of charge.

The special opening night session will begin at 7:30 p.m. and feature keynote speakers Maj. Gen. (res) Uzi Narkiss and former Israel President Yitzchak Navon. They will focus on their personal reflections concerning the reunification of Jerusalem.

Navon, in his capacity as World Chairman of Sefarad '92, will continue with that portion of the program at 8:30 p.m., with a reception set for 10 p.m. Registration for the Plenary, which is expected to attract 1,000 delegates and observers from across the country, is ongoing. Information is available at CJC offices or by calling Plenary headquarters at (416) 635-2883, ext. 251.

Fewer moments of triumph have caused as great a celebration as the day Jerusalem was liberated in June of 1967. For over 19 years during Jordanian occupation, Jews everywhere were forbidden to enter the Old City and visit their holiest religious site, the Western Wall.

Few men witnessed the actual embracing of the Wall, saw Israel's finest soldiers break into tears at the mere glimpse of being inside what would never again be forbidden territory or felt the tremendous emotion connected to over 2000 years of history. Maj. Gen. (res) Narkiss was not only there, but played an integral role in cementing this piece of history for all time.

Most people never truly experience the thrill of victory as Narkiss did at the age of 42 in 1967. As the commander of the troops that would be eventually responsible for freeing Jerusalem, the harrowing yet triumphant moments of maneuvering through mines, enemy territory and constant gun fire is one of never-ending pride and accomplishemnt forever burned in memory.

The CJC National Plenary Assembly occurs only a few weeks prior to the actual 25th anniversary of the reunification of Jerusalem which falls on June 7.

Narkiss's career defending Israel began with his service in the Palmach, the strike force of the pre-state Haganah. As ironic as it may be, liberating Jerusalem in 1967 was the second time the general was in fact in such a role. During Israel's War of Independence, he was in the unit responsible for rescuing areas of Jerusalem and occupying regions of the Negev for Israel.

During his 27 year career in the army, Narkiss has held many distinguished positions, including serving in the General Staff of the Israel Defence Force, military attache in several European capitals and Commanding Officer of Israel's Central Military Region, the unit under his command in 1967.

In 1968, Narkiss retired from active military service and began his long association with the Jewish Agency for Israel, the organization responsible for the transport and resettlement of Diaspora Jews in Israel. Most recently, he served as chairman of the Information Department to the World Zionist Organization in Jerusalem.

In his current position as chairman of the Zionist delegation to North America he is responsible for the supervision of over 200 Israeli emissaries throughout the United States and Canada. In addition, he is the representative of the work the Jewish Agency for Israel is currently doing on behalf of the Soviet and Ethiopian immigration which in the last two years has brought close to 400,000 Russians and more than 25,000 Ethiopians to Israel.

Born in Jerusalem in 1925, Narkiss is married to Esther (nee HaCohen), the director of the Jerusalem Music Conservatory. They have two daughters, one son and five grandchildren. Narkiss studied Arabic, philosophy and history at the Hebrew University.

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Organizations and People

Groups urge changes to human rights code

TORONTO —

All parties to a complaint under the Ontario Human Rights Code ought to have the right to a hearing, and organizations like Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) should be permitted to act as an advocate for individuals seeking redress under the code, a review task force examining changes to the legislation was told recently.

"In our community, Jewish complainants. . .would feel most comfortable in having an advocacy body such as CJC be very much involved in the carriage of the complaint," Congress spokesman David Satok said.

Satok, chairman of CJC's community relations committee, said the Human Rights Commission has not yet acknowledged receipt of a complaint registered more than two years ago by individuals associated with Congress and the Jamaican Canadian Association against the sponsor of a "neo-Nazi, whites-only rally" near Minden.

He said such delays and an apparent reluctance of the commission to be aggressive in certain cases of racial discrimination lead to the recommendation that alternative advocacy and enforcement mechanisms be adopted, as well as a mechanism to financially back such new procedures.

Under current practice, only individuals can lay complaints and it is up to the commission, following an initial attempt to resolve the issue, to call for an inquiry.

The commission has come under fire in recent years due to a large backlog of cases and the slow pace of enforcement of the Human Rights Code. The Code Review Task Force has heard recommendations from a number of community groups on changes to procedures and is expected to make its recommendations to cabinet in June.

In his address to the task force, Satok called for "very strict time limits [to] be established for investigation and decision." He suggested a two-pronged approach could speed up the process for resolving complaints. One would involve a board of inquiry as is now authorized by the Code, while a second approach would "allow the establishment of a permanent tribunal with quasi-judicial powers."

The tribunal's members would be permanent employees with special training in the judicial process, he suggested.

Sufficient resources

In its presentation to the task force, the League for Human Rights of B'nai Brith Canada called for the allocation of sufficient resources to ensure that difficult cases be resolved within one year.

The group also urged changes to the Code that would see the protection of groups "against racist and derogatory signs and symbols," such as Nazi swastikas and cross burnings.

The League also advocated changes to the code to "allow a group to seek redress," and to permit organizations to advocate on behalf of individuals.

It also called for a provision in the Code to "allow for an individuals to be able to take vacation time in order to satisfy religious observance and that the granting of such leave not be left to the discretion of the employer or supervisor." — P.L.

Peel school board urges review of school teacher

By PAUL LUNGEN

TORONTO —

The Peel Board of Education is calling on the Ministry of Education to review teacher Paul Fromm's certification in light of his association with extremist organizations.

It is also asking the ministry to join the board and the Ontario Teachers' Federation (OTF) to work together to establish guidelines for the professional conduct of teachers.

The move came in the wake of allegations that Fromm's organization, Citizens for Foreign Aid Reform (C-FAR), had co-sponsored a 1990 Martyr's Day Rally for Robert Mathews, a member of the violent white supremacist group, the Order, who was killed in a 1984 shootout with FBI agents.

Flanked by flags of the white supremacist Heritage Front, Fromm spoke at the rally and a video provided to the board by Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) showed him saying: "We're all on the same side. But we must know who the enemy is. . . We are quite right to honor heroes here tonight."

A news release issued by the Peel board said it was taking action "as a result of Fromm's involvement in alleged racist activities.

"A letter of serious concern has been given to Fromm clearly setting out the board's expectations and outlining the consequences should those expectations not be met."

While welcoming the board's recognition that the Fromm case was the responsibility of the Education Ministry, the teachers' federation as well as the board itself, Congress said that "an official reprimand on Fromm's record and a warning. . . simply do not go far enough.

"So long as the board has a racist activist in its employ as a teacher, Congress believes that the board is in contravention of its own multiculturalism/race relations policy, and that it cannot provide to members of minority communities the same quality of service (public education) which it provides everyone else."

Congress called for an independent, impartial inquiry into "whether Fromm's racism has intruded in the classroom," and to "assess the negative impact of Fromm as a certified teacher on the concept of the teacher as a positive role model."

A second inquiry would involve the OTF, which would examine how Fromm's activities square with the association's code of ethics, Congress suggested.

David Satok, chairman of CJC's community relations committee, said Congress would also examine the possibility of individual complaints of discrimination under the Ontario Human Rights Code.

In a letter to Education Minister Tony Silipo, B'nai Brith's League for Human Rights said "we fear that [the Fromm situation] may not be unique in the province."

League director Karen Mock said the short time devoted by the Peel board to its inquiry was "insufficient and unacceptable" and she called for a "full inquiry into the issues surrounding the Fromm case."

Mock urged the ministry to hold an inquiry beyond the issues faced in Peel to also hear concerns from other Ontario school boards as well.

"It has been our experience that while race relations policies may exist on paper, they are far from being implemented successfully in this province," she said.

In a letter to *The CJN*, received prior to the board's actions, Fromm claimed his remarks to the Martyrs' Day Rally were made in the context of advocating free speech and that he "urged unity among all who believe in free speech."

He said he was "uneasy about some of the banners and some of what I heard from the speakers" at the rally, and that "I had not been informed that among the purposes of the meeting was to honor Robert Mathews. . .He's not my type of hero."

Referring to Satok's concern that parents from minority groups might have an apprehension of bias in his classroom, Fromm said: "My record of fairness speaks for itself. . .Would childen of businessmen be equally entitled to apprehend bias on the part of a teacher who is a socialist? Would children from traditional Christian or Muslim homes apprehend bias on the part of a teacher who is a strong feminist?"

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Organizations and People

Heredity seen as factor in Alzheimer's disease

By
BEN ROSE

TORONTO —
Heredity plays an important role in only 10 percent of the families who have a member with Alzheimer's disease, a public health forum was told recently.

But in that 10 percent of the population, as many as half the children could be affected. "It's all over the family tree," said Dr. Morris Freedman, director of the Behavior Neurology Program at Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care, and a scientist at the Rotman Research Institute.

He was speaking at the second annual forum sponsored by the Women's Auxiliary.

The relationship between heredity and Alzheimer's was the question most frequently asked of Freedman. Apart from those families with the strong genetic link, there is little likelihood that another family member will develop it just because one in the family has the disease, he said.

There is no foolproof method of diagnosing Alzheimer's, no effective method of treatment, and no known method of prevention, but a new blood test (Spect) "shows promise of giving us positive results," Freedman said. The test appears to show changes taking place in Alzheimer's, but the results have to be treated with "some degree of caution."

Asked about the relationship of aluminum to Alzheimer's, he said it has not yet been proven, but he advised anyone who can avoid using aluminum pots and pans to do so. "But a much harder thing is to find an antiperspirant that doesn't have aluminum in it."

It is a popular notion that people with a failing memory have a better recollection of events when they were younger, but Freedman said studies have shown that this is not true, that the memory loss is constant. In these studies, people were shown faces of prominent persons related to different decades of their lives, or the 'famous faces" test.

"We know very little about how the brain works and how it breaks down," he said.

Some people have what he termed visuo-spatial defects; for example, instead of a harmonica they see a double decker bus, or instead of a harp they see a fence. With this defect, a person looks into a cupboard, sees a coat, and complains there is a person hiding in the cupboard. A patient with injury to the right side of the brain could eat only what was on the left side of his plate because he couldn't see what was on the other side. So the plate had to be turned around for him.

Dr. Freedman said he and two colleagues are publishing a paper on the value of a test which asks people to draw their version of a clock in order to determine injury to the brain. "We've had a massive study of people from age 20 to 90 and it is quite a sensitive test."

There is insufficient information to make a statement about the value of Alzene, a drug developed in Israel, in treating Alzheimer's, he said. "Nothing has been published with this drug on humans," he said.

The drug Deprenyl is being studied at Baycrest in the treatment of Alzheimer's, Freedman said, but he gave no indication of the results so far.

He said he was "not sure" if being active in retirement helps ward off Alzheimer's "but there is no doubt that not being active has other bad effects; you should stay active as long as possible."

Asked if men or women are more prone to Alzheimer's because of different brain structures, Freedman said: "Alzheimer's outweighs any differences between men and women."

As people get older their memory changes, but the change is relatively mild. "When you are 90 years old, the memory is not the same as when you are 20. But the change is not of the magnitude it is in Alzheimer's. You don't forget where you live or what day of the week it is."

Alzheimer grants awarded

TORONTO —
Dr. Carole Cohen of Sunnybrook Health Science Centre was among five recipients of grants awarded by the Alzheimer Association of Ontario to further advancements in the diagnosis, treatment and care of people with the disease.

Cohen received $13,200 of the total $250,000 provided to study the feasibility of a social support network program for spouse caregivers. The program is to help develop successful intervention programs for people with dementia and assist caregivers in interacting with the formal service network.

The 1992 Alzheimer Research Awards for non-biomedical research, which are the result of fundraising efforts by the Alzheimer Association and member homes of the Ontario Nursing Home Association, will be used to fund the work of five established Ontario researchers.

This is the second grant of its kind. Last year, the Alzheimer Association introduced these awards with the funding of three researchers, and now intends to continue funding non-biomedical research annually.

The Alzheimer Association of Ontario, through its 36-member chapters across the province, works to alleviate the personal and social consequences of Alzheimer disease and to promote Alzheimer research.

Harbord grads returning

TORONTO —
Eight visitors from Hong Kong, five from Israel and several from England and other European countries are among the 3,000 graduates of Harbord Collegiate expected at its centennial celebration May 8-10.

There is an unquenchable spirit alive among Harbord grads and it will be in full flower this weekend, according to Willie Zimmerman, Julius Molarino and Mannie Grossman, members of the organizing committee.

Most of the returning students and staff of the famed collegiate will be getting their first look at the Harbord Museum, the first architecturally-designed high school museum in Canada. There will also be decade rooms, theme rooms and home rooms to refresh their memories.

A highlight of the centennial is a dinner May 9 at the Metro Convention Centre with Phil Givens, a graduate, as chairman.

To observe the centennial, *The Happy Ghosts of Harbord*, a history of the school from 1892-1992, has been published as a special issue of the *Harborite*, the collegiate's semi-annual newsletter. This 280-page book is chock-a-block with photographs and reminiscences of its first 100 years — so many in fact that every grad will find a picture or a story about the years he or she was there.

To leaf through the book with its 300 photographs is to see clearly how the ethnic character of the collegiate changed. When it opened, and in its early years, the students were of Anglo-Saxon origin. (In the 1894 graduating class there was only one Jew — Sol Singer.) In the 20s, 30s and 40s, Jewish students were prominent. Today 47 percent are of Asian origin while Portuguese and Italians rank next in numbers. Currently there is only one Jewish student.

— B.R.

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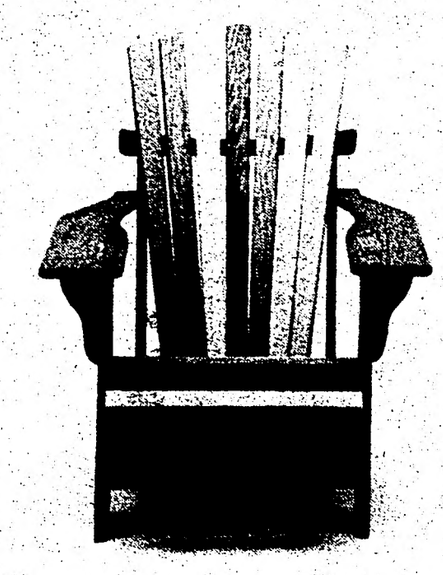

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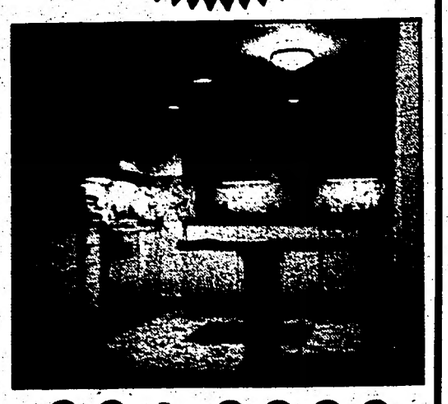

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A little touch of Paris

By
RANDI DRUZIN

A few months ago, two friends of Morrie Wolfman approached him in a tizzy. They had purchased a mix master, strategically positioned it on a designated countertop in their new kitchen, but found, in a horrifying moment of truth, that they couldn't use the machine. They had forgotten to install an electrical outlet, nearby.

Wolfman shakes his head in disbelief. "When you're renovating a kitchen, you have to plan everything in advance," he says. "*Everything.*"

Wolfman, who has been selling kitchen furniture since 1954, is the president and principal owner of Paris Kitchens, one of Canada's premiere manufacturers of kitchen and bathroom furniture.

For most of its history, the Toronto-based firm has functioned primarily as a supplier of kitchen cabinets for homebuilders. Over the past six years, however, it has been redefining its target customer. The emphasis has shifted to architects, design firms and retail customers. To attract individual homeowners, the company has opened three showrooms in the Toronto area since May 1989.

Encouraged by Paris Kitchens' success in the late '80s, Wolfman plans to expand business into the United States within the next few years.

Wolfman believes Paris Kitchens has been successful in recent years because it caters to the individual needs of each client.

"Europeans buy kitchens the way Canadians buy furniture," he says, "after their house has been built, or after the interior renovation has been completed." To Wolfman, this makes sense. "How can a builder or a renovator possibly know what kind of kitchen the buyer wants?," he asks. "He doesn't know the buyer's lifestyle. He doesn't know how many children there are in the buyer's family. He doesn't even know the buyer's favorite color.

"Before we sell our clients anything, we sit down with them and discuss all these things. We visit them in their homes. We learn about their lifestyles so that we can design and install a kitchen that suits their needs."

Morrie Wolfman

When walking through his expansive showroom on West Beaver Creek Drive in Richmond Hill, it becomes obvious that Paris Kitchens is well-equipped to meet a wide variety of needs.

To further ensure that each of his clients' needs are met, Wolfman provides "ergonomic design" — the science of designing kitchen appliances to fit the user comfortably. "It's no laughing matter if you're a tall person in a short person's kitchen. Or vice versa," he says. "Fit now matters as much as finish."

In these environmentally-friendly '90s, Paris Kitchens builds built-in bins for refuse — one bin to hold bottles and cans for the Blue Box, and a second to hold garbage for the compost heap.

Wolfman believes his clients appreciate the focus on their individual needs, and, he says, he's optimistic that Paris Kitchens will continue to address their needs in the future. "The kitchen is a warm, friendly place," he says. "People gather in kitchens to eat, to talk, to enjoy each other's company. And as long as kitchens are important to people, there will be work for us to do."

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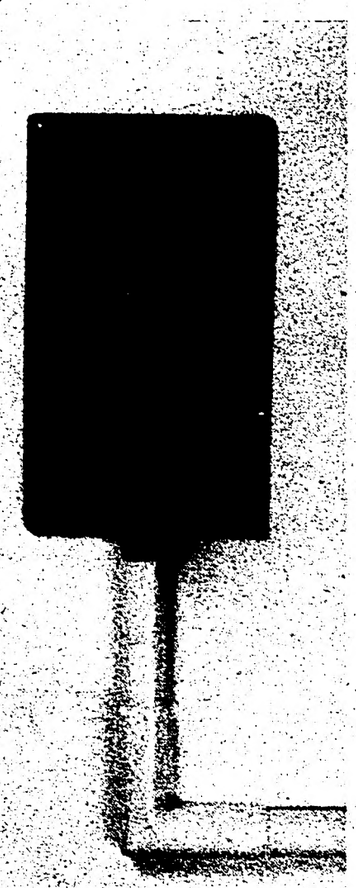
Priced approximately $5 per 40-inch tube, the Cord Cover Up System can be found in Quebec Living Lighting stores and a range of other lighting and hardware stores.



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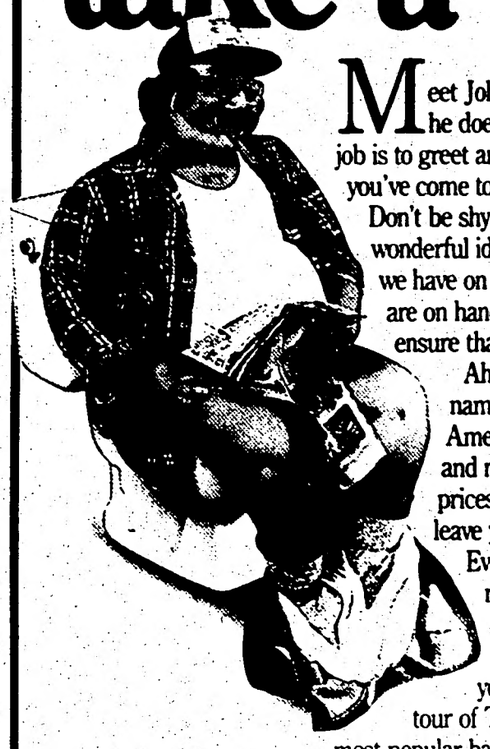

Meet John, Taps official mascot and tour guide. Okay, he doesn't look like a regular guide. But John's job is to greet and assure you that for inspirational ideas, you've come to the right place.

Don't be shy – explore! Discover all the latest wonderful ideas, products and accessories that we have on display. Our "toilet-trained" staff are on hand to answer all your questions and ensure that you enjoy the tour.

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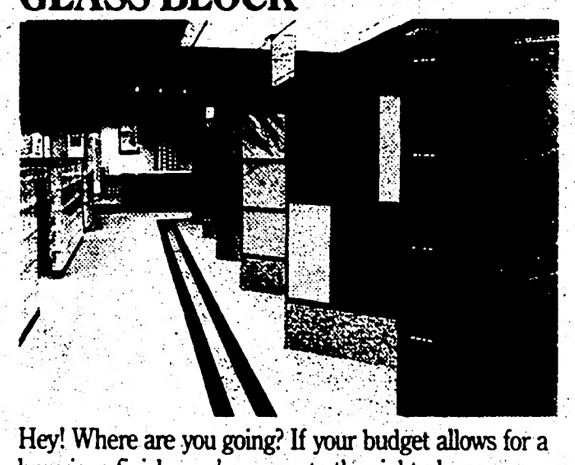

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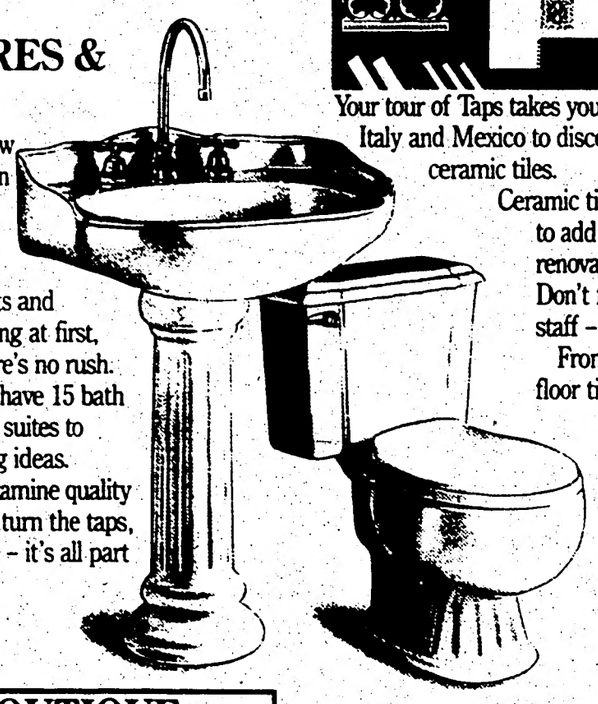

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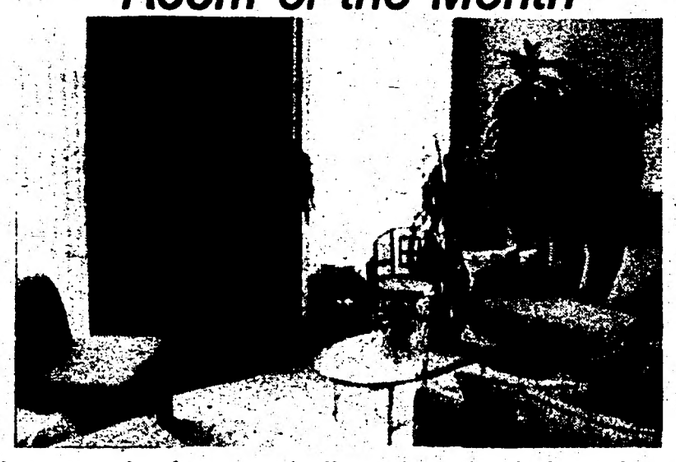

Subtly textured soft mauve walls and seating intimately grouped around the fireplace make this large, bright living room a cozy space. A rattan chair nestled amid lush foliage and a bright floral rug create a garden room atmosphere, while piles of pillows on the dusty rose couch invite you to bask in the sun.

May we help you put your look together?

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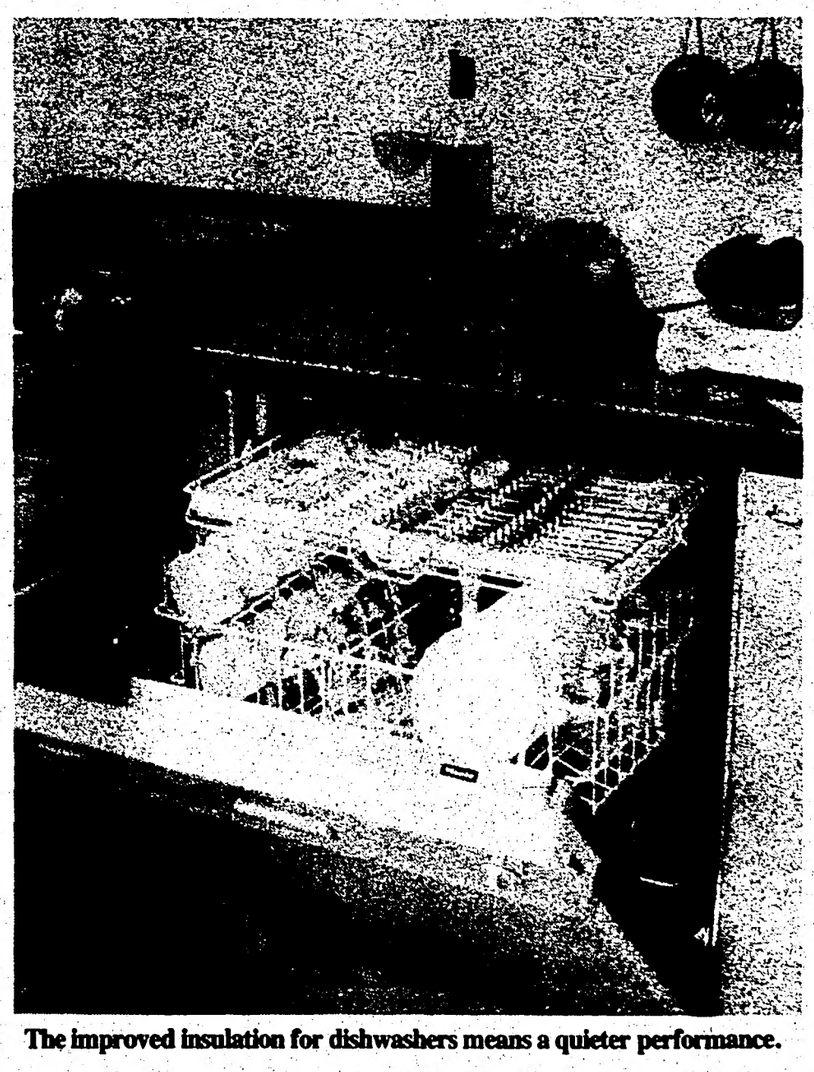
Progressive appliances

By
MARLA KAY



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TORONTO —

With the hectic pace of life these days, the first measure of a kitchen's success is convenience and that means fast, easy and efficient.

We don't have the time anymore to spend all day, everyday cooking and cleaning. Yet we still want warm, inviting kitchens and good food. Fortunately, today's kitchen products have enabled us to have it both ways.

The appliances of the 90s perform better and faster than ever and have sleek designs and surfaces that make clean-up a breeze. They offer a wide range of features designed for efficiency and expediency.

To better understand the complexity of choosing the right appliance to suit my needs, I chose a company called Midnorthern Appliances. They have been in business for over 30 years and are Ontario's largest independent distributor of major home appliances. They carry all of the major brands ranging from North American to imported European products. They have three retail showrooms at 255 Steeprock Dr. in Downsview, 1911 Kennedy Road in Scarborough and 3013 Dufferin St. in Toronto, operating under both the names of Midnorthern Appliances and Leder Appliances.

They operate a factory authorized service and parts department and will also arrange for the installation of built-in appliances. Midnorthern prides itself on its highly competitive pricing.

Michael Gnat, contract manager, informed me that Midnorthern is also the largest independent distributor of General Electric brand appliances in Canada.

"What are the newest features of the appliances of the 90s," I asked.

"Refrigerators by General Electric, include through-the-freezer door ice (crushed or cubed) and water, small doors within the door to provide quick, energy-efficient access to cold drinks and a flexible interior layout of adjustable shelves, bins, crispers and roll cuts," Gnat replied.

"Sub-zero refrigerators with through-the-refrigerator-door ice and water, are now available with an optional front panel grille. This panel completely flushes with existing cabinetry and camouflages the unit."

Dishwashers now regularly feature cycles for pots and pans or plate warming. They have the time delay cycles, so you can set the machine to go on after the family is asleep, improved insulation for quieter performances and integral water heaters that conserve energy dollars.

Gnat added, "When it comes to North American brands of dishwashers, people still want the 'whisper quiet' Kitchenaid products. It's very well insulated and designed for California-style open kitchens:

"There also appears to be a trend towards the high-end priced European style dishwasher. Products by Miele and Asko Asea feature stainless steel interiors, excellent durability, innovative designing and virtual silence in operation," explained Gnat.

The progress that has been achieved in cooking appliances is quite dramatic. Electric cooktops provide a choice of heating elements: conventional coils, halogen bulbs — which give an instant and visual heat response, cast-iron solid elements set in glass and magnetically powered induction units, which provide instant off and on and infinite heat adjustability comparable to gas cooktops.

"Thermador," says Gnat, "offers a stainless steel 'professional collection' of cooktops, ovens and accessories that provide super performance tailored to the needs of the most demanding cooks.

"For those of you, who are barbeque enthusiasts, Jenn-Air leads the way with its grill-range downdraft cooktop/range. It brings outdoor grilling indoors. Its grill includes downdraft ventilation, which makes indoor barbequing a breeze."

Ovens offer similar choices. Some of the latest models mix and match heating methods: microwaves, convection and conventional. These provide tremendous flexibility when it's time to bake or roast. "Thermador," Gnat explains, "produces an oven combining convection and conventional heating as well as an oven combining conventional and microwave abilities."

Today's kitchen is the prime meeting ground for busy modern families. It's not only a place for cooking and meal taking, but also a favorite spot for conversation, reading, music, TV and even work.

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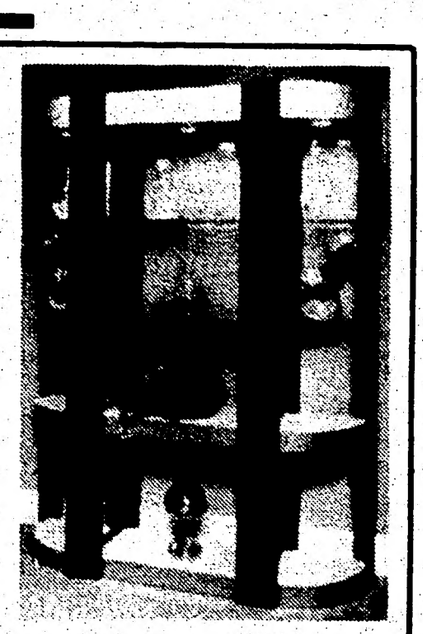

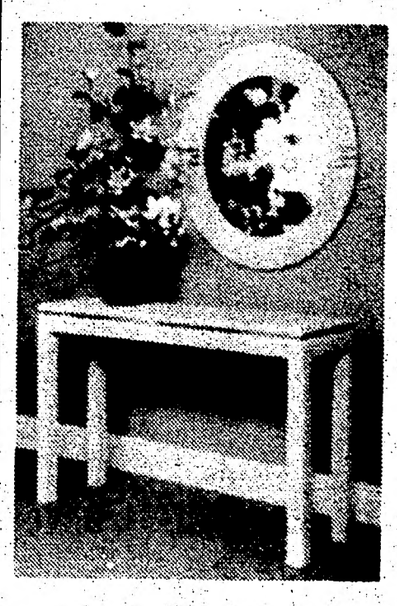

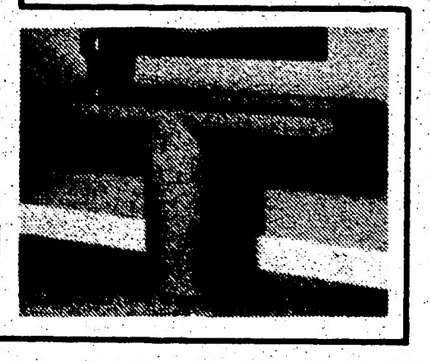

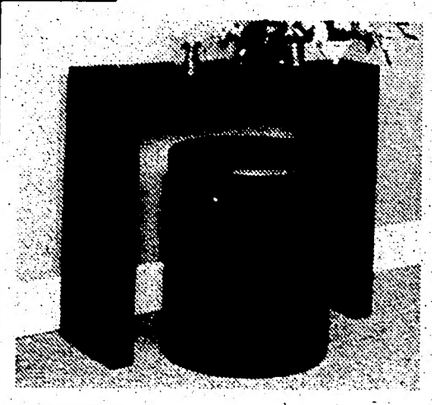

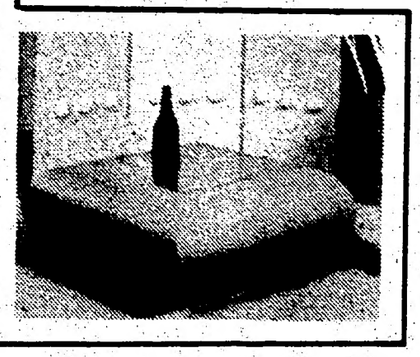

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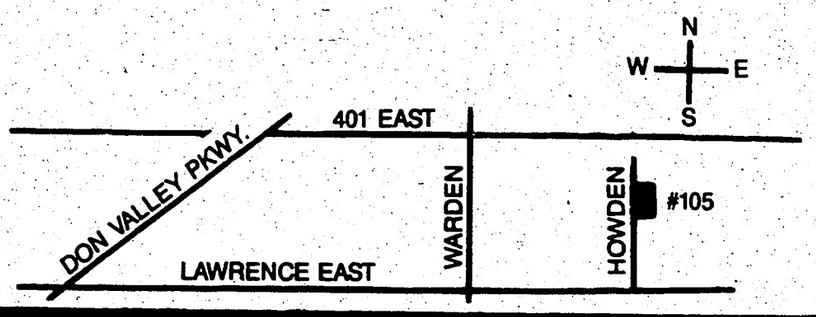

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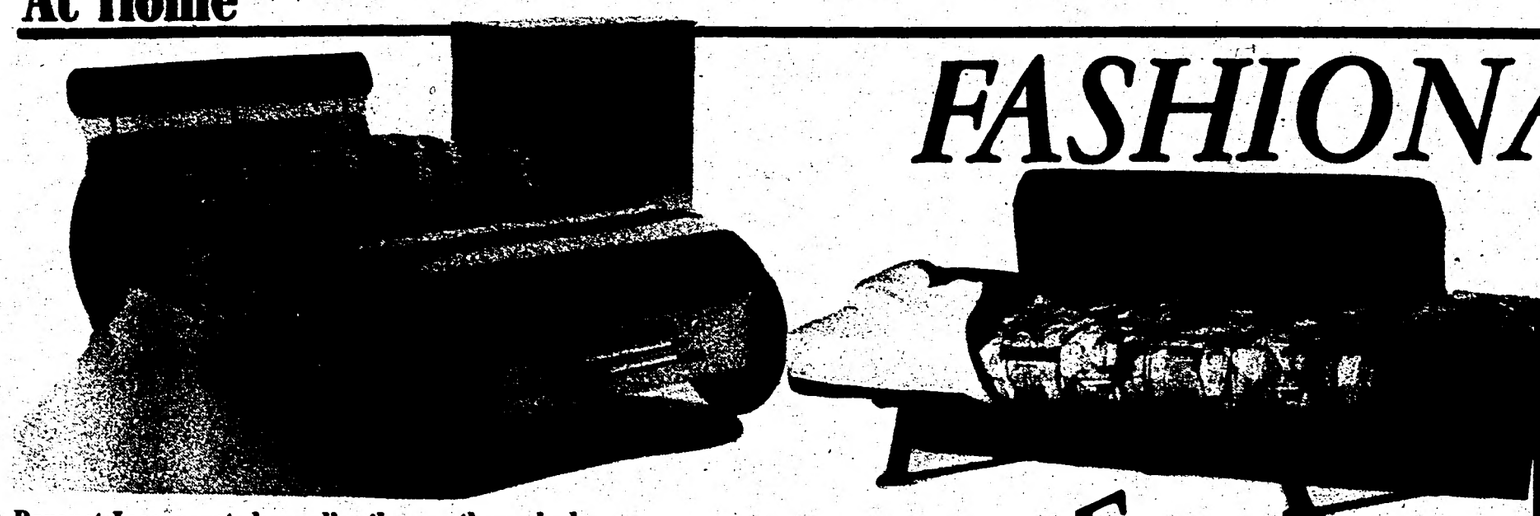

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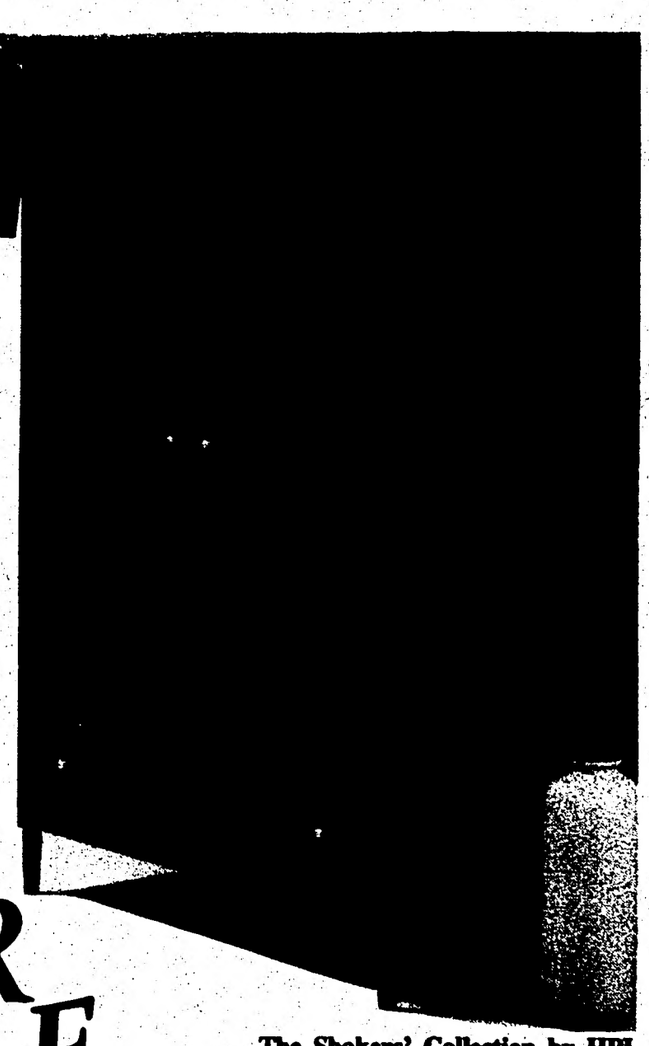

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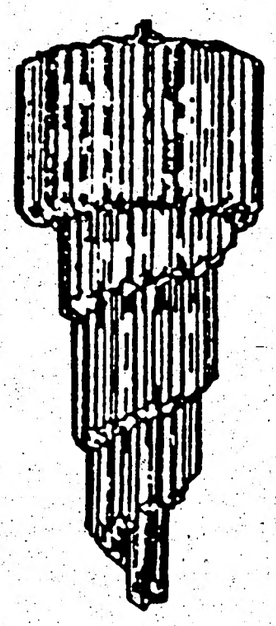

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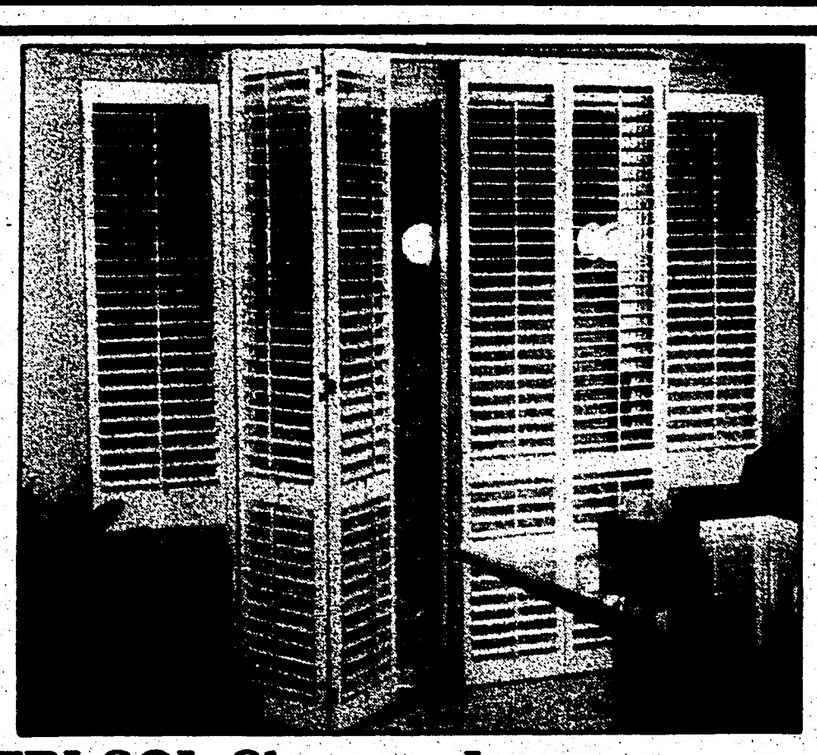

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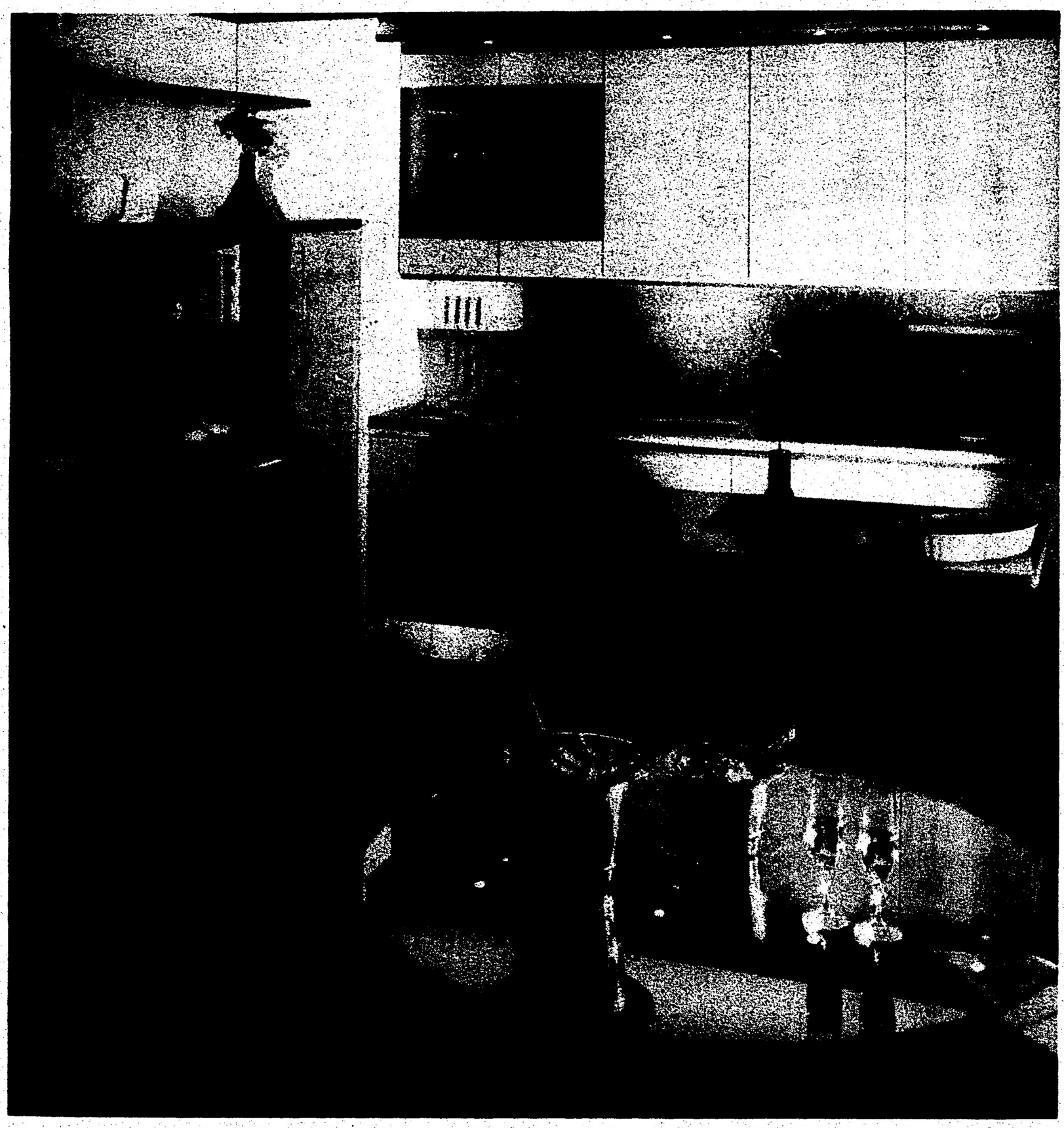

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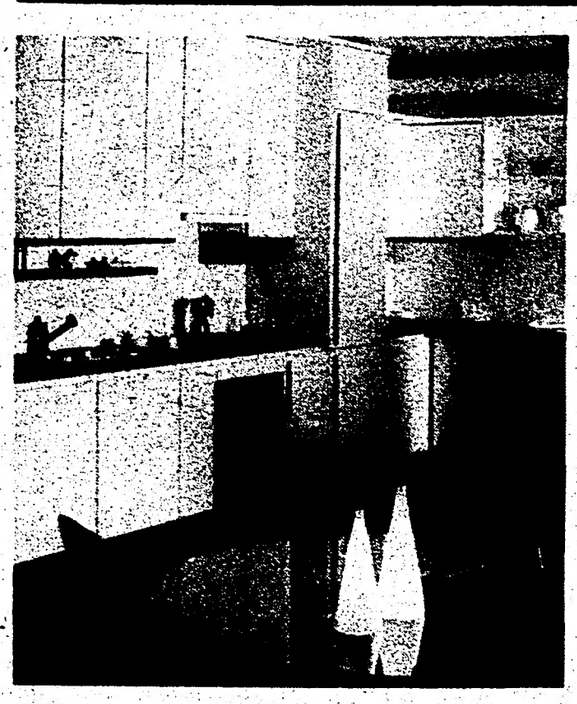

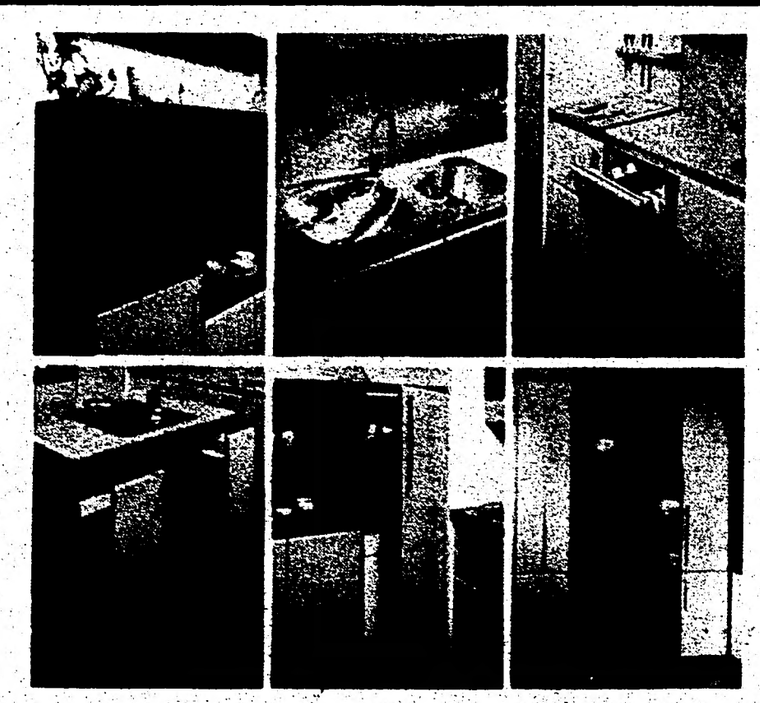

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Organizations and People

Breast cancer risks examined

By
FRANCES KRAFT

TORONTO —
Who is at risk for breast cancer? "Everyone," according to Dr. Richard Hasselback, medical oncologist at Princess Margaret Hospital.

"Eighty-two percent of all those we see with breast cancer do not have a family history of breast cancer," Hasselback told an audience of about 60 people who attended a session on breast cancer at Shaareh Haim Synagogue in Richmond Hill last week. The session, featuring four speakers and a video on breast self-examination (BSE), was co-sponsored by the synagogue's Sisterhood and the York Region branch of the Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation.

Although a family history increases the risk, it is only one of several risk factors. Along with hormonal factors, such as age of menarche and menopause, it is not controllable.

A risk factor we can control is diet, said Hasselback. Reducing the amount of fat, and increasing the amount of fibre, fruits and vegetables, has been shown to reduce the risk of breast cancer and other cancers.

"The other thing we can do is to take steps to make an early diagnosis," said Hasselback. "This is very important." If breast cancer is diagnosed when it's less than 5 mm. in diameter (by mammography), over 90 percent of patients are disease-free after 20 years, he said.

Monthly breast self-examination (BSE) is essential, he insists. Mammography (low-dose X-ray of the breasts) is recommended for women over age 50, and is now available to that group free of charge in the province of Ontario at a number of locations as part of the Ontario Breast Screening Program.

The risk of developing breast cancer continues to increase as a woman ages, said Hasselback.

Mammography is used in women under 35 only under very special circumstances, said Hasselback. Women under 50 who wonder if they need it should discuss it with their own physician.

If breast cancer is diagnosed early, only about 25 to 30 percent of women need a mastectomy, said Hasselback. The alternative procedure, a lumpectomy, is often the procedure of choice. The size of the cancer compared to the size of the breast will usually determine the choice of procedure.

For those women who do require mastectomies, modern reconstruction procedures are "quite spectacular," said Hasselback.

Speaker Patty Evans, who had a mastectomy nine and a half years ago, is troubled by the amount of publicity on breast implants and the dearth of information on breast prostheses as a viable option. As a volunteer with the Canadian Cancer Society's Reach to Recovery program, she visits women with breast cancer in Newmarket's York County Hospital, bringing moral support and a kit filled with useful paraphernalia including a temporary prosthesis and literature for the woman and her partner.

"There are a lot of women who have fine fitting prostheses and for whom life is very good," Evans said. "That option is not being held up and celebrated.

"It's not the same as having your own two breasts, but you can go on looking just fine. When I'm in my bathing suit, nobody can tell.

"If women choose to have an implant, fine. If not, there are wonderful options," said Evans. She added that the province of Ontario pays for 75 percent of the cost of breast prostheses.

ROCKET TO FREEDOM

Rocket to Freedom, a United Jewish Appeal/Operation Exodus fundraiser was recently held at Rockit, a downtown bar. The event drew around 400 young people. The $7,000 raised will be directed toward plane fare for Israel-bound, Russian Jews. Members of the Rocket to Freedom committee included (from left, standing) Bob Aberman, chairman; Pam Greenstein, Paul Cohen, Michael Kalles and (from left, second row) Ken Tanenbaum, Bonnie Bloomberg and (bottom) Shauna Merkur.

Church service marks Yom Hashoah

By
BILL GLADSTONE

TORONTO —
Bible readings, sermons, music, poetry, dance and a candle-lighting ceremony were featured as part of the recent Christian service in memory of the Holocaust held at Ashbury & West United Church.

Rev. Douglas McKenzie, who led the service, spoke of "the common humanity of all human beings, which leads us to understand that when one person suffers, we all suffer."

"Even now, the horror of the Holocaust eludes our grasp," said Rev. Terry Prendergast, chairman of the Christian-Jewish Dialogue of Toronto, which has offered the annual service for 12 years. "The sheer magnitude of the atrocity is hard to us to fathom."

Expressing a prayer for one world built on love and peace, Prendergast condemned anti-Semitism and voiced support for Israel. "May we suggest to our Jewish brothers and sisters that we walk together from here on in?" he asked.

After the church choir sang about "One world, built on a firm foundation," Rev. McKenzie recited Lawrence Ferlinghetti's poem *Blood* and Bernice Julien sang *The Lord Is My Rock* and *Sometimes I Feel Like A Motherless Child*. Then came a reading from the Christian scripture of Matthew.

Piano composition

There was no applause between selections, only silence.

Shula Saltzman danced to a solo piano composition by Srul Irving Glick, performed by Dorothy Sandler Glick. Then members of the assembly, some of whom were visibly moved, sang a spiritual hymn.

The melancholic Hebrew strains of K'El Maalei Rachamin and Kaddish, as sung by Cantor Benjamin Maissner of the Holy Blossom Temple, filled the church and reverberated eerily from loudspeakers in the near-empty foyer and stairwell of the building.

Seven candles were lit in memory of the six million Jews who perished. The first candle was dedicated to more than one million slaughtered Jewish children; the seventh for "righteous Gentiles" who died while trying to save Jews. Anita Ekstein and Maria Jacobs, a Holocaust survivor and a righteous Gentile respectively, were among those who lit candles.

On May 13, the Christian-Jewish Dialogue of Toronto is hosting a public viewing of the video *Abraham And His Children*, at Runnymede United Church, followed by a panel discussion on the common roots of the Jewish, Christian and Muslim faiths.

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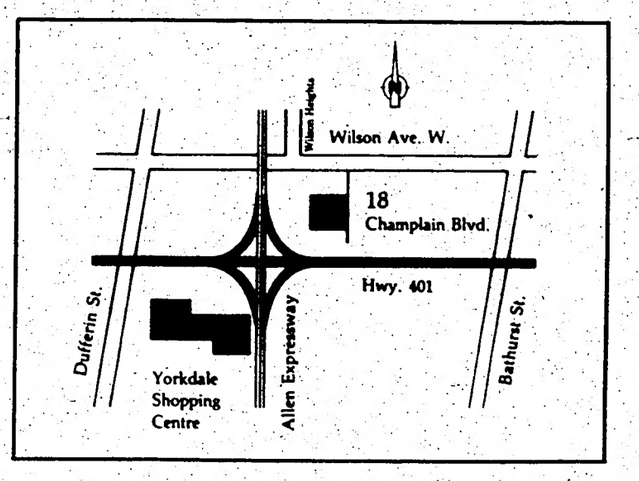

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Fashion

A gem of a tip

By
CAROLYN BLACKMAN

Diamonds may be a girl's best friend, but how many people really understand how to choose one and then go on to maintain a precious relationship?

According to Sandra Silberzweig, a certified gemologist, diamond grader and jewelry appraiser, there are many factors to consider when purchasing a diamond or any other precious gem. "Gems have always been among the most fascinating and exciting of objects and what makes them fascinating are the unique characteristics that make them so precious."

Silberzweig says that one of the first things to consider when determining the value of a stone is its hardness. "A soft stone such as turquoise or lapis will scratch easily, therefore its beauty will be lost due to abraision. Stones such as diamonds, rubies and sapphires are harder and therefore will wear much longer."

Much of the value of a gemstone comes from its scarcity and Silberzweig says for example that although red garnets are plentiful and moderate in price "the beautiful green demontoid garnet can rival some emeralds and is quite expensive because of its rarity."

Color is of major significance in the value of a stone and "the range of color in the gemstones kingdom is so vast that slight subtleties can be worth hundreds of dollars. Bright, intense rich shades determine the cost factor but fashion also dictates which colors we find the most desirable at certain times. On the other hand, the absence of color is also very desirable in certain gemstones such as the diamond. In that stone, the whiter the stone, the higher the price and the demand," says Silberzweig.

She says that diamonds should be

Sandra Silberzweig

cut so that the "brilliance and the dispersion will return the light from the stone back to your eye, causing it to sparkle. The colored stones are cut to display as much of their color as possible."

Clarity, or absence of flaws in a stone is what we seek when we go diamond shopping. "We all know that the cleaner the stone, the more expensive it will be. A completely clean stone, however, is rare and almost scarce. In some emeralds and rubies that is quite impossible, but quartzes and topazes usually have a good clarity," says Silberzweig.

Beauty, says Silberzweig is the most important criterion of all. "Beauty is almost completely subjective and is the judgement of the observer. What is beautiful or desirable may change with time and vary from one culture to another. Gem value is greatly linked with the vogue of time and fashion demand. What our grandmothers considered hot in their days, may not be so desirable nowadays."

Now, you've purchased your precious gemstone and it's beautiful, but do you know how to maintain its beauty? Silberzweig says that as an appraiser, she is often astonished by how much depreciation is caused to a piece of jewelry through inappropriate handling and care. "Damage to jewelry can be caused by a few simple factors such as pressure, heat, extreme sunlight and chemicals.

"While most people believe that diamonds are indestructible, this is not true. They are one of the hardest substances but they are subject to flaws, cracks and occasionally complete parting if pressure is applied by a blow or extra firm claw."

When storing diamonds, Silberzweig says to isolate them from other jewelry, as they tend to scrape other stones. "Rubies and sapphires perform in similar fashion to diamonds and can also develop flaws if not handled properly. Extreme heat can induce cracks and mediocre heat may cause their colors to lighten. In general, one should always try to avoid extreme heat, chemical baths, blows and tight claw settings."

Porous stones such as turquoise, lapis, opals and pearls, tend to act like a sponge and absorb much of their surroundings. They can be promptly damaged by ultrasonic cleaning, strong acids, chemical attacks from pollution, cosmetics such as perfume and powder, heating and intense sunlight. Because pearls tend to dry out, they should be worn so they can absorb your body's warmth and oils. If worn frequently however, pearls should be restrung every two years because the grime that accumulates on the string tends to erode the stone."

Silberzweig stresses the importance of having jewelry properly appraised. "Current market prices of gems are quite volatile so jewels appraised over four years ago do not compete with today's inflated economy. An appraisal should be done every two years to insure that it is properly protected.

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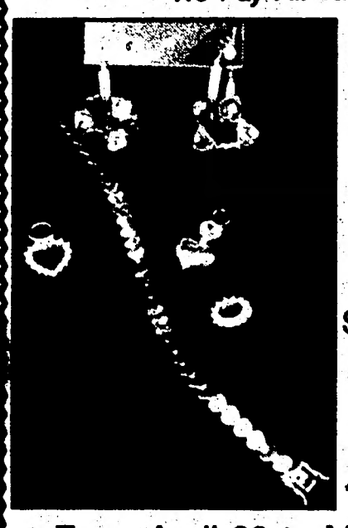
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Eye on Arts

The Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living will present a fundraising concert by Jenny Eisenstein, accompanied by Michael Khinkis, on May 20 at 7 p.m.

Eisenstein is a noted singer of Yiddish and Hebrew folk songs.

Upon her liberation from Auschwitz, she was sent to Sweden by the Red Cross and studied voice there. Her singing career was launched in 1950.

For more information contact Barbara Zigler at 225-2112.

* * *

The theatre committee of the Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto has extended its deadline to June 30 for the third annual cross-country playwriting competition to encourage playwrights to examine, in dramatic form, Jewish life and concerns of today.

The scripts can be for one or three act plays, either original or adapted from a book or other language.

The prize is a public concert reading of the winning play.

Anyone interested in participating can obtain the rules from the theatre committee at 635-2883, ext. 151 or 154 or send enquiries to Pauline Pont, 4600 Bathurst St., Willowdale, M2R 3V2.

* * *

The Tarragon Theatre's 1992-93 season will include one humorous play taking a look at the Pesach holiday we have just concluded.

The Theory of Relatives, involves five Jews sitting around the seder table, debating, telling jokes and asking questions. The cast includes Daniel Brooks, Leah Cherniak, Diane Flacks, Richard Greenblatt and Alan Merovitz.

Other plays in next season's roster include *Miracle Mother* by Deborah Kimmett, about a women who gives birth to a premature baby and how her life is changed by the process; *The Baltimore Waltz*, by Paula Vogel, a haunting new American play which takes a sister and her ailing brother on a wish-fulfilment fantasy tour of Hollywood's Europe; and *Catlover*, by Janis Spence, about a woman who must deal with a missing husband who returns home after 20 years, an aggressively overambitious son and a 23-year-old cat.

For more information, phone Tim Chapman at 536-5018.

* * *

The Tarragon Theatre will also offer up six performances of *The Theory of Relatives* during its Public Workshop Project from June 5-20.

The project, created in 1990, it designed to facilitate the development of new works with active participation by an audience. The process is a combination of rehearsal, public performance, revision, further performance and evaluation.

The Theory of Relatives was first commissioned — in a 20-minute version — for the 1991 Tarragon Spring Arts Fair.

All performances are pay-what-you-can.

For tickets, call 531-1827.

* * *

A Day in the Warsaw Ghetto. A Birthday Trip in Hell has just won a Golden Apple, the top prize in its category at the National Film and Video Festival in Oakland, California.

Based on photographs taken by a German soldier inside the ghetto on his birthday in 1941, and discovered only recently, the film is accompanied by observations of ghetto inhabitants who illegally kept diaries, recording events in the prison city. Authentic sounds and music of the day add to the amalgam of image and sound.

The film was premiered on CBC this past fall to critical acclaim, and a French version will be screened shortly on the CBC French Network. This past month it played on Polish TV and will soon be seen on television screens around the world. So far it has been sold to more than a dozen countries.

* * *

Due to overwhelming demand for tickets, producers of *Les Miserables* have extended the run by an additional 9½ weeks, through July 22.

In order to accommodate the demand, the Toronto company will expand and a second compay will be created for the Canadian tour.

After *Les Miserables* closes in Toronto, that company will go on to Ottawa to open at the National Arts Centre from July 31 to August 15.

The new touring production will play in Winnipeg from June 21 to July 4, in Edmonton from July 10-25, in Vancouver from August 21 to Sept. 26 and in Calgary from Oct. 2-17.

Tickets for the final booking period are now on sale.

For further information call 872-3333.

* * *

There's a world of entertainment coming up this summer in and around Toronto. Among the many fun-filled festivals are:

- The du Maurier Ltd. Downtown Jazz from June 19-28. The 10-day event will showcase nearly 1,000 local and international jazz performers in over 40 venues (363-8717).
- Music at Sharon during weekends in July. A classical summer music festival entering its 12th season in the community of Sharon, Ont., situated just north of Metro Toronto. The festival takes place in July for four consecutive weekends, and offers a unique musical experience in a casual and informal setting (366-7200).
- Beaches Jazz Festival from July 19-26. A week-long celebration of jazz of all kinds in the Beaches neighborhood (699-0244).

Art unites Jewish, Muslim children

By
SHELDON KIRSHNER

TORONTO —

Art is a pathway to Arab-Israeli coexistence at the Givat Haviva Institute in Israel.

For the past three years, Jewish and Muslim children in grades seven and eight have been getting together at weekly three-hour workshops designed to encourage their artistic development and to engender a better understanding of each other.

A selection of their water paintings and pencil drawings was exhibited at Harbourfront last week in an exhibit entitled Children's Art For Peace. It will run until May 24.

Children's Art For Peace, which is currently on a North American tour, was in Montreal at Cummings House from April 21-30.

It opened in Vancouver on May 3 and was scheduled to close on May 13.

The exhibit is sponsored by Givat Haviva Institute's Art Center. Givat Haviva, which was founded in 1949, is the oldest and one of the largest organizations in Israel which fosters Jewish-Arab rapprochement, according to its representative in Toronto, Shuli Dichter.

Children's Art For Peace is accompanied by two Israelis — David Koren, 40, a Jew, and Fadia Korabi, 24, a Muslim.

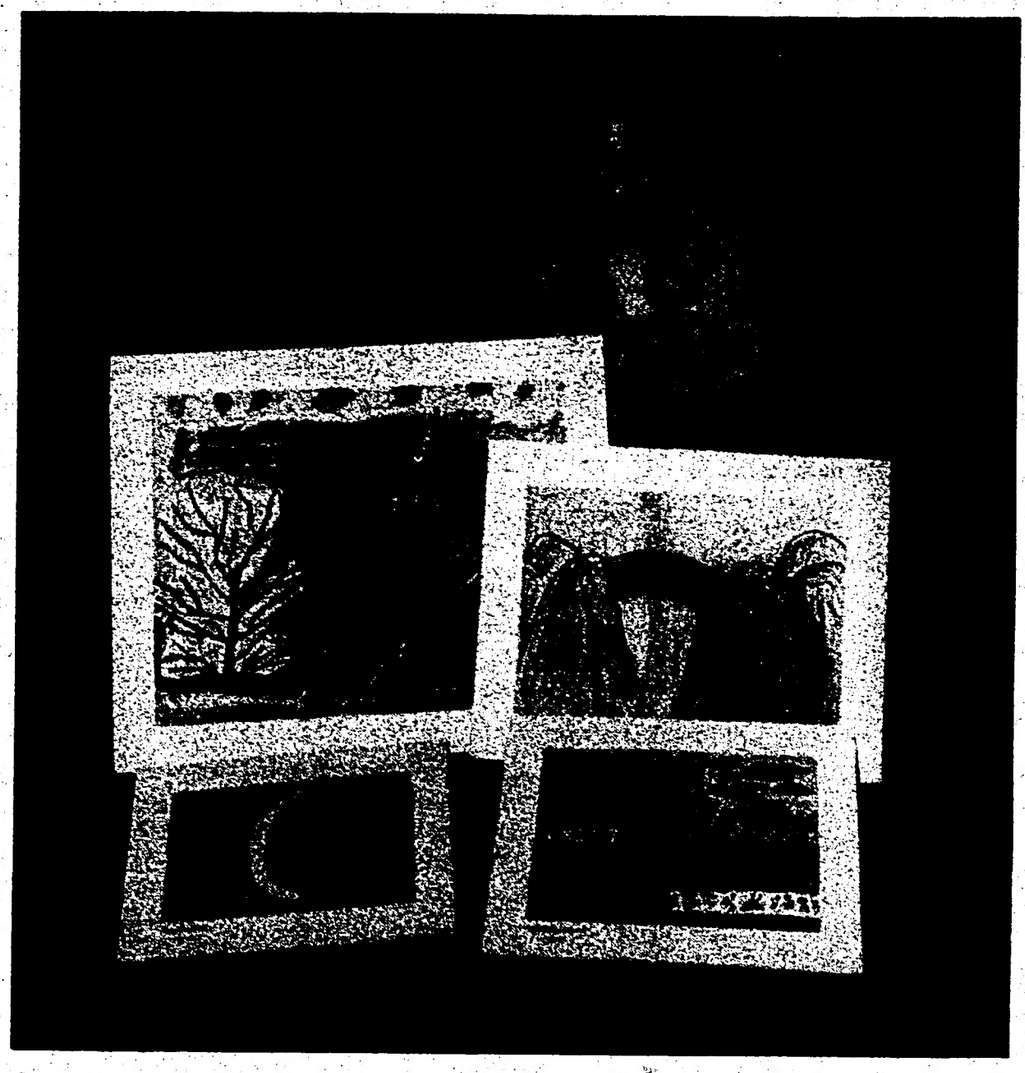
Koren, a social worker from Kibbutz Ha'ogen, is in charge of Givat Haviva's program for English-speaking visitors. Koren, who lost a leg in a land mine explosion while in the army 15 years ago, is confined to a wheelchair. He's a member of Israel's Olympic Wheelchair basketball team.

Korabi, a school teacher for the disabled and a Hebrew University graduate, is a coordinator at Givat Haviva's Art Center.

The more than two dozen paintings and drawings in Children's Art For Peace are neither technically accomplished nor dazzling. But they convey a longing for peace, stability and beauty, whether symbolic or plainly on the surface.

Works that caught the eye included Suad Mahmud Yunis' white dove on a blue background, Abid Abd Akal's crescent moon and yellow Star of David, Tal Shamir's cat on a fence dripping teardrops, Rita Sterchaba's tranquil landscape, Mahmud Abu Hilal's black bridge connecting two brown hillocks and Maya Cohen's still life of white and yellow flowers.

The artists are either from kibbutzim in the Menashe region, or from nearby Arab villages in the Wadi Ara area, close to the old Jordanian border.



Shuli Dichter with some of the children's paintings, now on display at Harbourfront. (Alron photo).

In an interview, Koren said the ultimate purpose of the art classes is to eradicate stereotypes and preconceived notions, to bridge the cultural, social, ethnic, and political gap that so often divides Jews and Muslims in Israel.

Under the direction of Ilana Bauman, the workshops take place in a co-operative, egalitarian setting.

Korabi considers the program important because it enables Jews and Muslims who don't ordinarily meet under normal circumstances to mingle and exchange ideas.

"All they know about each other is from the media — which reinforce stereotypes," she said.

Korabi, who says she was educated according to the principles of peace and friendship with Jews, claims the program has been a success so far.

Financial support comes from the Israeli Ministry of Education, the New Israel Fund and the Ford Foundation, among others.

The opening of *Children's Art For Peace* was attended by representatives of the Canadian Jewish Congress and the Canadian Arab Federation and by Arlene Perly Rae, the wife of Ontario's premier.

Video promotes JCFS

By
MYRON LOVE

WINNIPEG —

The Jewish Child & Family Service (JCFS) has made a 10-minute video promoting the 40-year-old Winnipeg agency and its services. The video, made through the good graces of I. H. (Izzy) Asper's CKND-TV, was first shown at the JCFS Family Fun Day at the Shaarey Zedek Synagogue at the beginning of April.

It was also shown at the 20th annual conference of the Association of Jewish Child & Family Service Agencies which was held on May 3-6 in Orange County, California.

The video was produced and directed by Doug Howe and his Greenwich Productions and featured members of the Jewish community acting out common social problems JCFS staff encounter and showing how they go about trying to resolve them.

"We wanted to better illustrate the services we offer in a way that is easily understandable for all the people associated with the agency including consumers, funders and volunteers," says Barney Yellen, JCFS executive director. The video is narrated by Justice Guy Kroft.

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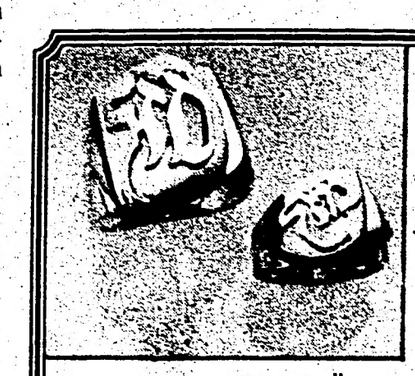

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NEXT WEEK'S ISSUE

Arts

Jewish mothers satirized in Mother's Day

By
BEN ROSE

TORONTO —

If you like to hear a Yiddish *vort*, if you grew up in Toronto, if you can face up to a slightly skewed picture of the Jewish mother, then *Mother's Day* at the Leah Posluns Theatre until May 24 was custom-written for you.

The former Torontonian, Rubin Carson, has written a play that is Neil Simon with angst and has just as many good one-liners. The comparison with Neil Simon is inevitable, given the subject and its handling.

"Do you know what happens to boys who don't do their homework and go to dances?" asks Rebecca, the 85-year-old mother, speaking to her least favorite son. "They end up going to technical school."

Later on, talking of her favorite son's short-lived third marriage, she said, "Your father and I had arguments that lasted longer than that, we called it Jewish aerobics."

The strength of *Mother's Day* is that Rebecca Cooper and her son Barney are believable characters and that they are played by Lillian Adams and Francois Klanfer with gusto. As Barney, Klanfer gives a gem of a performance, absolutely polished, a few shades above that of Adams who had trouble with some lines.

The rest of the characters, Barney's brother and two of his three wives, his father and his mother's "shrink", are peripheral, and the manner of staging, entrances and exits, does nothing to give them substance. The playwright has failed to flesh out any but the two central characters. The revue-style skits, albeit some good lines, leaves the others as cardboard figures.

Carson attended Clinton Street school and Harbord Collegiate briefly, and the play is peppered with references to Toronto and its Jewish institutions, even though the main action is taking place in a $900 a day hospital room in Los Angeles where Rebecca is in a coma following a stroke.

He says up front that the play is autobiographical, that he has had three marriages, and that he writes only about what he knows. His mother died eight years ago at the age of 88. If the play is produced in other cities, all the references to Toronto and the highly effective rear projection photos and drawings of local scenes will be kept intact.

Mother's Day was produced and directed by Reva Stern. The set and lighting design by Stephen Droege was excellent. The music was composed and performed by Phyllis Cohen.

Lillian Adams and Francois Klanfer in Mother's Day at Leah Posluns Theatre.

Books

By
BERNARD BASKIN

The Forgotten by Elie Wiesel
Summit $27.50

In a recent interview, Elie Wiesel confided that what all of his books have in common is a commitment to memory. A brand plucked from the fire, he feels a sacred obligation to keep alive the events of the past, especially the horrors of the Holocaust that so many would conveniently forget. To forget, Wiesel insists, means to abandon. It is a form of repudiation.

He asked his interviewer, "What is the opposite of memory?" And he himself answered, "Alzheimer's disease. I began to research this topic and I discovered that this is the worst disease, that every intellectual is afraid of this disease, not just because it is incurable, which is true of other diseases, too. But here the identity is being abolished. And so I do not see it as a disease, I see it as a malediction."

The protagonist of this moving novel is a psychotherapist who has fallen victim to Alzheimer's disease. He resolves to tell his son, Malkiel about his past before it is too late — all of it — the varied and astonishing events, both heroic and shameful.

He insists that Malkiel, a New York journalist, visit the Carpathian village of his birth where a crime that had been committed years before still haunts him.

Through a series of flashbacks and Malkiel's visit to Europe, his father's life eventually unfolds. We learn of the death of his parents, his lucky escape from deportation and mass murder, his involvement with a Jewish labor battalion in the Hungarian army and his marriage on a refugee ship on its way to Palestine.

Visiting the cemetery in his father's village, he meets a deformed gravedigger who styles himself the "last Jew." This mocking figure leads him to the grave of his grandfather and conjures up tales of sages and demons. He relates a mystical vision of reunion of dead rabbinical judges who can't stop a train that is carrying victims to their doom.

"Rabbi Zadok, son of Chaim said in a clear strong voice, 'God of our fathers, there will be no more prayers to You from this city! The voices of children reading Torah will never again he heard within these walls! The hearts of these people will never again yearn for their Redeemer! Is that what You wished'?"

Malkiel's encounters include an elderly blind sage who advises him to forsake his quest and leave the land of the dead, "Listen my young friend. Don't linger here. Get out. I implore you. What you seek, you can find in me. Look upon me and go. Feel the chill of my hand and go home. Your place is not with us. It is among the living."

Finally, Malkiel meets the woman, now pliant and forgiving, who is the source of his father's guilt and perturbation. Forgiveness and understanding enable father and son to "forge new links within the ambiguities of life."

This is the least autobiographical of Wiesel's novels. Although it has moments of melodrama and patches of familiar material, it is nevertheless, rich in symbolism, Jewish midrashic material and replete with ideas and action. And at the end there is the joy of spiritual redemption.

League of Nathans poses age-old question

TORONTO —

"What is a good Jew?" one of the characters in *The League of Nathans* asks near the play's beginning. This question is never answered, as are other questions it raised but never resolved.

Writing a good drama about Jews is not easy. Arthur Miller made it a point never to identify his characters as Jewish to avoid misinterpretations. Sholom Aleichem wrote *Hard to be a Jew* and the title spoke volumes.

The young Toronto playwright Jason Sherman has tackled a difficult subject in *The League of Nathans* running at Theatre Passe Muraille until May 10. This play is not as successful as his earlier *A Place Like Pamela*.

Should every Jew in the Diaspora go to Israel? Should an author make a lot of money writing about her grandmother's experience in the Holocaust? Must a Jewish state require higher standards of conduct than others?

Sherman writes crisp dialogue presenting both sides of these questions, laced here and there with humor, but, in the end, one must speak the familiar refrain: "Is this good or bad for the Jews?"

The play, while not providing any new insights, falls now and then, even though well-intentioned, into presenting Jews as stereotypes. There is little heart's ease in this play for Jews, and for non-Jews...?

The best performances in the six-member cast of this Orange Dog Theatre production are given by Alyson Green and Melinda Little as they tear verbal strips off each other over exploitation of the Holocaust. They do light up the cramped stage.

The play comes to life, too, when Cy Sherman, the playwright's father, brings his long experience to bear in the role of Zaydie and of a Holocaust survivor visiting an old synagogue in Toledo, Spain.

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Leisure Pleasures

By VIVIENNE MUHLING 422-2331

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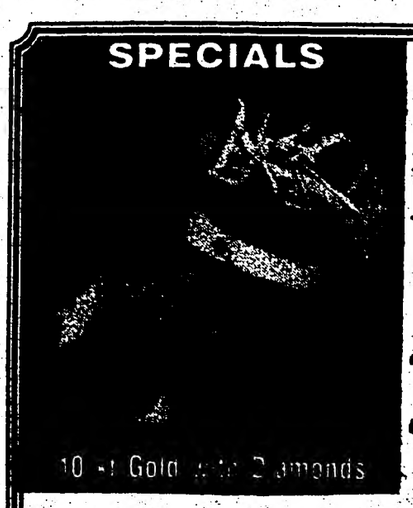

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Israel opening its doors to international investment

By
FRANCES KRAFT

TORONTO —

Business opportunities in Israel appear to be a well-kept secret from many Canadian businesspeople. Although there was approximately $250 million of trade between Canada and Israel last year, there is much untapped potential, according to Gabriel Regev, assistant trade commissioner at the Israel Economic Mission.

The situation can be attributed to lack of information on the part of both countries, says Regev. To Israel, Canada "is still virgin territory. They think of it as a small market" compared to the United States, with which they did $4 billion worth of business last year.

Many Canadians, on the other hand, haven't heard about recent changes in Israeli policy which make investment in Israel, particularly for smaller investors, a more attractive prospect. Companies were never allowed to keep a foreign currency account in Israel, says Regev. That has changed in the past year. Other incentives include government grants and relaxation of income tax regulations.

Regev outlines a scenario in which an investment in Israel could prove particularly advantageous. "Let's assume you're a Canadian manufacturer and you assemble equipment in Israel. If 35 percent Israeli contents are added to the product, it then qualifies as a bona fide Israeli product which enters the European market duty free. You can use Israel as a springboard."

The biotechnology industry in Israel has strong relations with Quebec-based companies, says Regev. "It has nothing to do with sentiment. It has to do with what's good for Quebec and what's good for Israel."

Business forum conference to be held

There's no question that foreign business investments are good for Israel, especially following the influx of so many skilled Russian olim in the past two and a half years.

When Jews give money to charitable organizations, says Regev, it benefits the social infrastructure and not industry directly. Regev points out the importance of shoring up industry in Israel. "You can squeeze 10 people into an apartment as long as you provide them with work to return their dignity."

Doing business with Israel should not be viewed as charity, however. The country's pool of highly skilled labor and the intellectual expertise of its scientists, along with its proximity to European markets provide definite benefits to the foreign investor.

* * *

Anyone considering establishing business ties with Israel should consider attending a business forum conference to be held from June 15 to 18 at the Ramada Renaissance Hotel in Jerusalem.

Under the auspices of the Israeli Forum, an apolitical volunteer organization seeking to strengthen ties between Jews in Israel and the Diaspora, the business forum will showcase business projects, categorized according to industry and provide an opportunity to meet with businesspeople in a variety of fields.

Guests of honor will include Moshe Nissim, deputy prime minister and minister of industry and trade, and Yizhak Mod'ai, minister of finance. Reception hosts are Israeli president Chaim Herzog and Teddy Kollek, mayor of Jerusalem.

For further information on the business forum conference or on trade matters with Israel, contact Benjamin Noy, consul for economic affairs and trade commissioner at the Israel Economic Mission in Toronto at 416-961-1242 or Sandra Winston, assistant trade commissioner at the Israel Economic Mission in Montreal at 514-393-9282.

Fundraising gala event nets $65,000 for Second Harvest

By
RANDI DRUZIN

TORONTO —

More than 50 of Toronto's top chefs and caterers created signature dishes for 650 guests at the Concert Hall of the Royal York Hotel April 12.

Taste of the Nation-Toronto was one of this year's most anticipated charity events and was organized by volunteers, chefs and food professionals to raise money for Second Harvest, Toronto's only perishable food recovery program.

The gala event raised over $65,000, 80 percent of which went to Second Harvest, and 20 percent to Share Our Strength (S.O.S.), an international non-profit organization that works with members of the food and hospitality industry to raise money for hunger relief.

Tickets for the evening, priced at $75, $95 and $125, sold out in just four days.

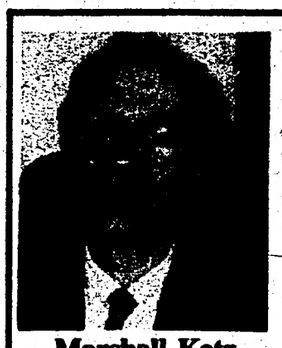
"In a time of difficulty, this event's success proves that Torontonians are concerned with the problem of hunger," said Bonnie Stern, co-chair of the event. "Participating chefs showed that they can contribute directly to the cause."

Guests were treated to gourmet offerings created by some of Toronto's most prominent chefs and caterers. Some of the participants included La Scala, Plendido, Four Seasons, Lotus, Rodney's Oyster Bar and North 44.

The chefs were assisted by some of the most well-known names in Canada. Among them were Knowlton Nash and Peter Gzowski of the CBC, CTV's Dini Petty and Lloyd Robertson and CityTV's Jeanne Beker, comedian Sandra Shamas and television director Gail Singer.

The four-hour food extravaganza, which was sponsored by American Express, Alcan Recycling and Cott Beverages, also included live entertainment, a Cook's Mart, a Harvest/roulette wheel, a raffle and a souvenir program which included the chefs' recipes.

Taste of the Nation is one of the vehicles used by S.O.S. to raise funds for the food banks in 100 North American cities. Ottawa, Vancouver and Edmonton are also participating this year.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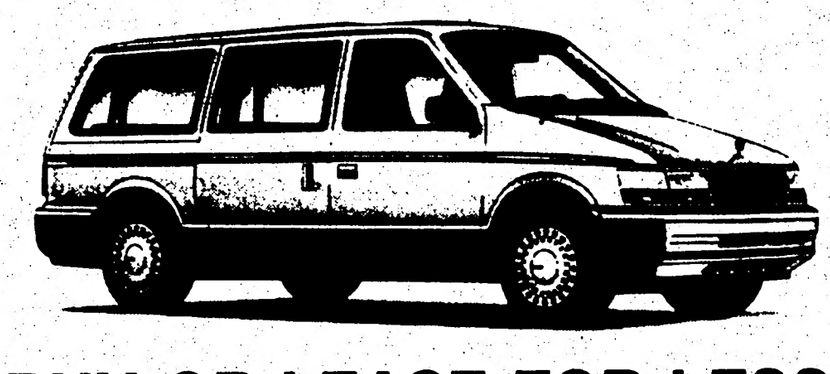
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Open concept, large 2 bdrm apt., balcony, eat-in kitchen, sunny & bright! *Sarah Rovet 764-7200.

"CONDO QUEEN" SAYS "$189K AT LANDMARK III?"
Reduced! Approx. 1,400', 2 bdrms, solarium, gorgeous kitchen, 2 lckrs, everything you always wanted! *Annette Lipton 764-7200.

BAYVIEW-GREENLANE ONLY $179,900!
A golden oportunity! Vendor anxious to sell this 2 bdrm + solarium, appls., south exposure! *Al Sidofsky 764-7200.

"HEMISPHERES II" CONDO — MUST SELL!
Lowest priced 2 bdrm + solarium, large shower ensuite, Vendor bought, will lease back till fall. **M. Povering 764-7200.

BATHURST-PROMENADE $169K — SOUTH VIEW
2 bdrm units, sep. dining, split bedrooms, locker, ens. Vendor says "sell." Others available. *Annette Lipton 764-7200.

BATHURST & STEELES 3 BEDROOM TOWNHOUSE
Corner unit, finished basement. Priced to sell at $169,900. *Shelly Halpern 764-7200.

BATHURST & STEELES LUXURY BUILDING
2 bdrms, 2 walk-outs to balcony, white kitchen, second floor unit, bus to subway. *Helen Winer 764-7200.

"PRIMROSE 3" $164,900
White, bright, 2 bedrooms, eat-in kitchen, balcony, flexible possession. *Helen Gould 764-7200 or 633-5332.

REDUCED AGAIN! ONLY $159,900 — WON'T LAST!
Ridley Blvd-Avenue Road-Wilson. 1 bdrm, solarium, 5 appls., parking. *Michael Kamin 764-7200.

BATHURST & CENTRE "FOREST HILLS" REDUCED!
$139K! Top condition 1 bdrm, marble foyer, white kit/baths, 2 pkg, west view, "motivated." *Andrea Halpern 764-7200.

*Sales Representative **Associate Broker

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Bayview Forest Estates, a custom collection of prestigious new design releases. These homes are a superlative example of style and craftmanship, all nestled in a 9 lot wooded enclave. Bayview Forest Lane by Heritage Club Homes could be yours. Visit the sales centre this weekend or call:

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$499,500 - $285,000. Superb penthouses, beautiful 2 bdrm., rare garden unit . . . consider this luxurious lifestyle. Dorann Gottlieb 487-4343.

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$495,000. In central North York! 4,000 sq. ft. 5 bdrms., child-safe cres. Huge lot, handy to everything. Mildred Cappe 737-1100.

SKYMARK — SPECTACULAR!!!
$329,000. South view, corner "Galaxie" 1,711 sq. ft. of luxury, comfort, security. Many upgrades & blt./ins. A must to see! Mildred Cappe 737-1100.

WALK TO SYNAGOGUE
$259,900. 4 bdrm. 3 bath, main flr. family rm. fplce, ceramics, finished basement. Immaculate. Fantastic value! A. Coleman 737-1100.

FIRST TIME BUYERS!! 5% DOWN
$208,000. Bayview/Willowbrook. Deluxe 3 bdrm. semi, CAC, auto gar. + all appl. Close to schools, shops, trans. H. Sherman 449-2020.

1 **Houses For Sale**

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HOMES

NORTH YORK GEM — $229,000
3 bdrms, 3 baths, 3 walkouts, a perfect first home. Finished bsmt. This home is professionally decorated. Call Ken Wilder, Sales Representative, 771-7100.

PRICED TO SELL — BATHURST & FINCH
Huge lot, 49' x 162', new windows, private drive, finished bsmt, near French Immersion & public schools, won't last. Call Yossi Adout, Sales Representative, 771-7100.

NEWLY RENOVATED — PROMENADE WEST
2,550 sq. ft. of open living space. Huge kitchen, main floor laundry, 4 bdrm. This home is situated on a premium lot. For private viewing call Ken Wilder, Sales Represntative, 771-7100.

MINT CONDITION! MOVE RIGHT IN!
Have the kids moved out? Left with a big empty house? Don't want a condo with an elevator? This is for you! 20-unit luxury North York low-rise. Steps to bus, minutes from JCC, all amenities. Spacious, tastefully decorated, mirrors, ceramics, air, white kitchen, built-in appliances, family room w/fireplace, huge fenced backyard. Just listed & priced to sell. A must see! Call Jeff Tabachnick, Associate Broker, 771-7100.

BATHURST-CLARK — EAST SIDE
4 bdrms, 2½ baths, on quiet street, main flr. family room w/fireplace, w/o from kitchen to fenced yard, central air. Call Jeff Tabachnick, Associate Broker, 771-7100.

ROSEDALE NORTH ON QUIET CRESCENT
Lovely 4 bdrm., Hollywood kitchen, family room w/fireplace, full ensuite off spacious master, finished lower level w/walkout, central air, designer decor, priced to sell. Call Jeff Tabachnick, Associate Broker, 771-7100. SOLD

CHABAD GATE — $269,900
Best buy in Spring Farm area. 3 bedrooms, double car garage on premium lot. Rec. room with built-in bar, main floor laundry, reno. kitchen & much more. Call Elin Beaumont, Sales Representative, 771-7100.

ESTATE SALE — REDUCED
3 bdrm. home on terrific 54'x119' lot in super location near synagogues, parks, schools, TTC, garage, central air, fireplace, 2 kitchens, private side ent. office, finished bsmt. Estate sale — priced to sell! Call Marvin Newman, Sales Representative, 771-7100. SOLD

CHABAD GATE & BATHURST — SUPER DEAL!
4 bdrm. home + 2 large bdrms. in finished bsmt., family room with fireplace, w/o patio, main floor laundry, large eat-in kitchen, double garage. In great location near synagogues, schools, shopping, TTC. Call Yossi Adout, Sales Represntative, 771-7100.

RICHMOND HILL — PRICED TO SELL!
4 bdrm., large eat-in kitchen, fireplace & family room, main floor laundry, ensuite & walk-in closet in master bdrm. Super deal! Call Yossi Adout, Sales Represntative, 771-7100.

POWER OF SALE
Houses, condos, commercial, industrial — great values, anxious vendors, great financing available. Call Joseph Soer, Sales Representative, 771-7100.

CONDOMINIUMS

CLARK & HILL — FOR RENT
Fabulous 2-bdrm. condo RENTED corner unit, parking & locker included. Call Elin Beaumont, Sales Representative, 771-7100.

BATHURST & STEELES — VENDOR ANXIOUS
3 bdrm., owner-occupied, never rented. Upgraded, sunny southwest view, $156,900. Call David Lieberman, Sales Representative, 771-7100.

BATHURST & ANTIBES - 1, 2 & 3 BEDROOM UNITS
Starting at $119,900. Great selection — don't delay! Call Joseph Soer, Sales Representative, 771-7100.

BAYVIEW & GREEN LANE — 2 BEDROOM
+ solarium, extras +++, must sell. Call Joseph Soer, Sales Representative, 771-7100.

VENDOR SAYS SELL NOW!
Finch & Bathurst — The Savoy. $199,900 penthouse. 2 bedroom, loaded w/extras. Other 2 bedrooms starting at $160,000. Rec. centre w/indoor pool +++ Call Joseph Soer, Sales Representative, 771-7100.

AVENUE ROAD & 401 — REDUCED
2 bdrm. + solarium, 5 appliances. Immaculate, Tridel-built, great value. Call Joseph Soer, Sales Representative, 771-7100.

McCOWAN & STEELES — OPTIMA
1 + 2 bedrooms, rec. centre w/indoor pool, must sell. Call Joseph Soer, Sales Representative, 771-7100.

CONDOS ARE MY SPECIALTY!
Let me help you buy or sell. I want to talk to you! Call Joseph Soer, Sales Representative, 771-7100.

771-7100

Forest Hill

Real Estate Inc. Realty

488-2875 226-1987

CENTRAL PROPERTIES

FOREST HILL ROAD! PERFECTION!
Reno'd 3 stry, 5+ bdrms. 170' Lot! Interior designed w/finest quality & style! C. Kwinter/E. Wagman 488-2875.

1ST AD! ALEXANDRA WOOD $1,295,000
Elegant centre hall on south lot! 5 Bdrms on 2nd, exquisite master w/fireplace & marble ens. mn flr den, fam rm with w/o. Wonderful 3rd floor. Skylights, large finished bsmt, move in cond! C. Kwinter/J. Wagman 488-2875.

VILLAGE RENO 5 BDRM TUDOR
50' Lot on ravine, mn flr rm & den. Stunning new kitchen. Priced to sell. $874,900. J. Fox 488-2875.

UPPER VILLAGE — HAS IT ALL!
Stunning 4 bdrm w/master ens, new white kit, fam rm and much more! Reesa Sud 488-2875.

FIRST AD! 3,100 SQ FT OF LUXURY
Ledbury/Lawrence. 4 Bdrms, 4 baths, grand granite foyer, 2 fireplaces, nanny's rm. D/S Plant 488-2875.

86 KIMBARK BLVD NOW $645,000!
Bring an offer! Fab reno, mirror, marble, top of line kit, 4 fab baths, w/o to pool! S. Slater 488-2875.

CASA LOMA JEWEL AWAITS!
$629,000. Traditional home, lovely architectural details, lrge lot. Stephen McShane 488-2875.

ARMOUR HEIGHTS $625,000 1ST AD!
Incredible 4 bdrm, 5 bath w/sitting rm, 5 car garage. Must see! Patti Pollock 226-1987.

LEGAL DUPLEX LAWRENCE/ALLEN EXPY
Ideal multi fam use, income + live in, 2/3 bdrm, 1/2 bdrm, at subway. Goldie Kay 226-1987.

REDUCED! NOW $449,000! VALUE +
Centrally located, spacious move-in cond, 182' south lot! Garage, fireplace, skylite! Cathy Kwinter 488-2875.

WONDERFUL "MANOR" BUNGALOW $319,000
Huge fam rm, skylight, fireplace, stain floors, pmodern kit, big rentable bsmt. Dale Noble/Les Levine 226-1987.

PRICE REDUCED! BATHURST/WILSON
$285,000. Large rms, huge beautiful lot, central air plus!! Ruth Trachter 226-1987.

CLANTON PARK — ONLY $279,000
Charming 3 bdrm, 3 stry, eat-in kit, fin bsmt w/sep ent + 3 pc. Patti Pollock 226-1987.

BATHURST/LAWRENCE — GREAT VALUE
3 Bedroom det fab SE lot. SOLD ncipal rms, sep in-law suite. House needs work. Bonnie Singer 488-2875.

LAWRENCE PLAZA BARGAIN HUNTING
Oversized dining rm, eat-in kit, updated bungalow, bsmt apt + rec rm. Sunny south lot. $154,900. Dale Noble/Les Levine 226-1987.

CATCH A FALLING STAR! ONLY $254,000
Before it (the price) rises, 3 bdrm, 2 baths, fin bsmt at Lawrence & Bathurst. Dale Noble/Les Levine 226-1987.

BATHURST/YORK DOWNS 1ST AD! $249,000
Fab 1½ stry w/mn flr den + fam rm. Huge kitchen, great price. Patti Pollock 226-1987.

229 WOODMOUNT AVE — REDUCED
Priced to sell at $209,000. Updated 2+1 bdrm, fen ced yard, sun rm, eat-in kit, in-law ste. S. Slater 488-2875.

NORTH PROPERTIES

BRIDLEPATH — HIGH POINT ROAD
$5,175,000. Exceptional residence on 2 acres. Unparalleled construction & design! Cathy Kwinter 488-2875.

AFFORDABLE BATHURST/CLARK — 1ST AD!
Only $299,000, 4 lrg bdrms, 3 baths, eat-in kit, mn flr laundry. Dale Noble/Les Levine 226-1987.

CONDOMINIUMS

LUXURY ORIG. HAZELTON LANES
Spectacular 2 stry, 3 bdrm. Approx. 3,400 sq ft, formal LR & DR, fam rm, gourmet kit. $775,000. J. Fox 488-2875.

GOVERNOR'S HILL 1&2 BDRM SUITES
North York's finest! Superb facilities! Unmatched security! Luxury finishings! Dagmar Hansen 226-1987.

FOREST HILL NEW LISTING
Stunning 2 bdrm suite, superbly upgraded, lots of storage, security. Must be seen. A. Hevesi 488-2875.

1ST AD! SPADINA/ST. CLAIR
Priced to sell at $279,000. Winston Place, 2 storey, 2 balconies, mn flr pwdr, 2 bdrm. F. Sversky 488-2875.

488-2875
441 Spadina Rd. (Suite 202)
Toronto, Ont. M5P 2W3
Fax (416) 488-2694

226-1987
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CLARK-GLENMANOR
3+1 bdrm., 2 sty., fsd. bsmt., 4 baths, move-in condition.
Call Sally Rosen 884-4425

BARRY FREEMAN
R.E. LTD. RLTR., 535-3103

BATHURST MANOR IMMEDIATE POSSESSION
Prime S/E corner lot. Spac. 4 bdrm. side split. Country kit. Fin. bsmt., 2 bths., Garage. Immaculate. $279,900. N. Freeman, 535-3103, 781-0790.

Paul Slavens
REAL ESTATE LTD. REALTOR

RESULTS
RESULTS
RESULTS
483-4337

PRESTIGE PROPERTIES

OLD FOREST HILL RD.
$2,600,000. Magnificent resid SOLD situated on park-like setting. Elegant princ. rms., breatt ing master suite. I/G pool. *L. Binstock.

LOWER VILLAGE/INDOOR POOL
$1,790,000. Stately 9 BR. Tudor updated for luxurious family living & entertaining. Will consider home as trade-in. *Jack Solomon.

CONTEMPORARY LOWER VILLAGE
$1,650,000. Wonderful 5 BR., super master w/ens., stunning kitchen/fam. rm., library, mn. fl. lndry. Incredible I-lvl. I/G pool. *W. Freedman.

LOWER VILLAGE
$1,098,000. Stunning residence. Grand principal rms., 4-5 BR., master w/ens. + Jacuzzi, mn. flr. library, fam. rm. *Barbara Kaplan.

RUSSELL HILL RD.
$2,100,000. Architecturally d SOLD for 90's lifestyle! Spectacular kitchen & family rm. Wonderful master suite. **Gary Mitchell.

FINE HOMES

OLD FOREST HILL RD.
$899,000. Gracious 4 BR. + library, 3 baths, greenhouse + w/o to pool/Jacuzzi, fin. I-lvl. VCAC. Dble. gar. *Lesley Binstock.

FOREST RIDGE + POOL
NOW $775,000. Upper Village. 4 BR., newly renovated kitchen, w/o to pool, mn. flr. fam. rm. & den, fin. lower level. CAC. *Linda Rose.

FIRST TIME BUYERS
$424,900. Smashing decor! 3 BR., gorgeous hrdwd. flrs., reno. kitchen + brkfst. rm., marble bath w/Jacuzzi. **Don Wagman.

UPPER VILLAGE / JUST REDUCED
NOW $369,000. Stone-front, 4 BR. (inc. oversized master), White eat-in kitchen, exquisite marble bath. *Gayle Mitchell.

BRIAR HILL RD.
$639,000. Wonderful 4 BR. SOLD ensuite, main flr. fam. rm., fin. I-lvl. w/rec rm. & nanny's ... CAC. Att. gar. *Eleanor Stanton.

STRATHEARN BLVD/LOWER VILLAGE
$664,900. Inviting Tudor. Centre hall. 3+ BR., 3 baths, updated kitchen & baths. Central air. Must be sold! *Edie Winberg.

LOWER VILLAGE
$619,000. Exceptional 4 BR., mn. flr. fam. rm. w-w/o to deck & lush gdn, modern kitchen, beautifully fin. I-lvl. *Eleanor Stanton.

LOWER VILLAGE — ORMSBY CRES.
$785,000. Centre hall home with contemporary influences. 4 BR., master ens., mn flr. den, eat-in kitchen. Att. gar. *E. Wortsman.

LOT VALUE — REDUCED $100,000
$695,000. Lower Village. 60' x 173' building lot. Prime location. East of Spadina. For details call Nancy Prussky.

LOWER VILLAGE — AFFORDABLE PRICE
$499,000. Inviting centre hall. 4 BR., master ens., updated eat-in kitchen, fin. I-level w/nanny's rm. CAC. *Marlene Federman.

PRIME CEDARVALE — JUST REDUCED
NOW $649,000. Beautiful 4 BR., exquisite master suite, 2-stry. addition, kitchen w/brkfst. rm., fam. rm. + w/o, skylights. *Edie Winberg.

CEDARVALE/FIRST TIME BUYER
$379,000. Lovely 2-stry., 3 BR., eat-in kitchen, hardwood flrs., fin. I-level w/sep. entry. Pvt. dr./att. gar. VTB Mtge. **Don Wagman.

IDEAL LOCATION / GREAT VALUE
$349,000. Charming & spacious 2-stry., 3 BR., White eat-in kitchen, fin. I-level w/nanny's rm. Walk to TTC & shops. *Marlene Federman.

BEDFORD PARK/AVENUE RD.
NOW $374,000. Det. 2-stry. in desirable location. Modern 3 BR., CAC. Deep lot. Pvt. dr. Walk to TTC & trendy shops. *M. Federman.

BRING YOUR BUSINESS HOME
$329,900. Detached 3+ BR., ideal for live-in professional. Fin. lower level. Large lot. Dble gar/pvt drive. *Leslie Dennis.

AVENUE RD/WILSON
$895,000. Superb 4+ BR., gorgeous kitchen, mn. flr. family rm. + w/o to patio. CAC. Dble. garage. 62' frontage. *Edith Weiss.

STUNNING RENOVATION
$379,900. Yonge/Blythwood. Det. 4 BR., 2 baths, hardwood flrs. thruout, designer decor, eat-in kitchen. CAC. Alarm. *Leslie Dennis.

BATHURST/YORK DOWNS
$369,000. Superb 4 BR. bungalow, mn. flr. fam. rm., reno'd kitchen & bath, sep. entry to fin. lower level. CAC. *Ruth Halperin.

BAYVIEW NORTH

FIFESHIRE/CHIEFTAIN — 1ST AD
$1,150,000. Set on 1/3 acre w/inground pool, 5 BR. (unique master suite), 5 baths, den & family rm. **Harold Hillman.

LESLIE/VAN HORNE
$429,000. Appealing Tudor. 4 lrge. BRS., main floor family rm. & mud rm., super I-lvl, w/o to gdn. CAC. **Don Wagman.

BAYVIEW/CUMMER
NOW $559,000. Centre hall. 4 BR., 4 baths, reno. kitchen + brkfst. rm. with w/o, mn. flr. fam. rm., w/o from I-level. *Edie Winberg.

1ST TIME BUYERS — TAKE NOTE
$255,900. Thornhill link. 4BRS., 3 baths, fireplace, CAC. Deep lot, pvt. dr. & att. gar. Thousands in extras. *Wilma Freedman.

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*Sales Representative **Associate Broker
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441-2888 REALTOR 488-4488

NORTH

THE BRIDLE PATH Spectacular 2 acre setting with pool/pavilion and tennis crt. Ready to restore or build $3,280,000 Elise Kalles 488-4488.

POST RD.-BAYVIEW Prestigious crt. Grand European-style, high clngs., marble flrs., frplcs., exclusive master. Fin. L-level. $3,280,000. E. Kalles 488-4488.

MISTY ON THE PARK Contemporary designed w/lots of open living! 5 BR. Completely updated, indoor pool. $1,980,000. E. Kalles/J. Zinman 441-2888.

IMAGINE 2/3 ACRE beautifully treed lot w/ranch bungalow w/fabulous indoor pool 4 bdrm, family rm. $1,495,000. Cherry Graff 441-2888.

ALDERBROOK-BANBURY. Fab. contemporary reno. with exciting use of space. Skylights, sun-filled rms. Pool $1,280,000. Elise Kalles 488-4488.

ATTENTION INVESTORS! Centrally located apartment building in desirable area. Good income. Carol Gordon 488-4488.

$749,000. BAYVIEW-YK. MILLS! Just listed — fab. 4 BR. + fam. rm. Updated bungalow, gorgeous large priv. lot! Barbara Krieger 441-2888.

BAYVIEW VILLAGE Contemporary 4 bdrms., new kit. & baths, mn. fl. fam. rm. w/o to cedar deck. Fin. L-level & nanny rm. $639,000. C. Kalles 488-4488.

BATH.-FINCH. "SAVOY". Lux. condo corner unit. 1,830 sq. ft. Lge. entertaining area. Fab. master ste., 3 baths, mag. view. Must sell! G. Kerbel 488-4488.

BATHURST-ANTIBES Beautiful T.H. Must sell! Updated 3 lge. bdrms., 2 baths, fin. bsmt. Gourmet kit. Att. garage. All amenities. G. Kerbel 488-4488.

CENTRAL

MAJESTIC STONE MANSION ON DOUBLE LOT In the heart of Forest Hill. Spectacular gardens with pool and tennis ct. $4,900,000. E. Kalles 488-4488.

DUNVEGAN — A complete reno. with exquisite detailing. Fab. sun-filled kit., for the gourmet. Fin. l. lev. + nanny rm. $2,495,000. E. Kalles 488-4488.

NEW EXCLUSIVE! LOWER VILLAGE! Ravine! Beautifully renovated. W/o to stunning pool, garden. Must see! $1.995,000. T. Farb/E. Kalles 488-4488.

HILLHOLM — Elegantly restored 5 bdrms., 5 baths, mn. fl. family rm. Fabulous master with sitting rm. Pool. $1,350,000. Elise Kalles 488-4488.

1,150,000. JUST LISTED WOODLAWN GEM. Panoramic south view of city, 5 bdrms. completely renovated. Truly one of a kind! E. Cohen 488-4488.

LUXURY 4,500+ 5 BDRM. BUILDER'S HOME. Lib. — fam. rm. Huge eat-in kit. Must be sold! Bathurst/Glencairn. $869K. G. Kerbel/B. Jacobs 488-4488.

DRASTIC REDUCTION LOWER VILLAGE! East of Spadina, 35 Parkwood. Now $765,000. Det. 3 stry., 4 bdrm. + den, frpl. Super lot. A. Dlouha 488-4488.

LAWRENCE PARK $699K. Updated kit., baths, rec rm, w/oak panelled walls, walk out plus solarium, main flr. fam. rm. 4 br. C. Kalles/C. Graff 441-2888.

NEW LISTING CRANBROOKE 2 yrs. new near parks. Fab. design. 3,500 sq. ft. $649,900. Hdwd flrs. French drs. W/o bsmt. E. Kalles/C. Graff 441-2888.

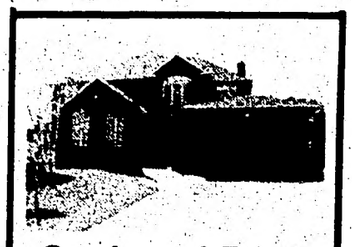
$495,000. JUST LISTED. Prime annex. Victorian income prop., 4 units, renovated. Shows well. Inc. pot. $50K. E. Cohen/D. Fulgosi 488-4488.

$459K. NEW LISTING "PENTHOUSE" CONDO 2,100 s.f. & 2 pkg. spaces. 2+ 1 BR., 4 baths, 5 appl. & wet bar. Heath/Spadina. R. Greenberg 488-4488.

$349,900. NEW LISTING! Eglinton/Mt. Pleasant, detached 2 storey totally renovated 3 bdrm., legal pad pkg. Must see!! R. Greenberg 488-4488.

BAYVIEW/DAVISVILLE $249,900. Bright 3 br. semi. Private 25x120 south garden. Open fp., new kit. & windows, 2 baths. Eva Cohen 441-2888.

$198K. NEW LISTING "Grand Harbor Condo" "Power of Sale." 932 sq. ft. + 1 bdrm., 2 baths/Jacuzzi. 10-15% down. R. Greenberg 488-4488.



Garden of Eden

Living here will be pure pleasure! Exclusive area of Unionville on quiet court. Formal dining with vaulted ceiling and art nouveau windows. Synagogue nearby. Asking only $449,900. Rob Porter, sales rep., RE/MAX Omega Realty (1988) Ltd., Realtor. 798-7365

Canada Trust Realty

PENTHOUSE - FOREST HILL
$275,000 Spacious 3 bedroom plus den, 2,272 sq. ft., extra large terrace overlooking city and lake. Financing is available from vendor. Not to be missed.
Helene Katz 481-3443

Make A Statement! You'll love it & so will your friends! One of a kind 10-rm. 6,000 sq. ft. bung. in Bathurst Manor on ravine lot has everything! Don't wish - call now! M. Seth 630-1999.
Coldwell Banker Seth R.E.

Canada Trust Realty

Price Slashed $479,900!
Vendor leaving country! Bathurst-Centre, 3,400 SQ. FT. Cul-de-sac. Steps to Shuls. Prestigious Location. Michael Konsker 222-9707.

• • •

Bathurst/Chabad Gate
$384,800.00. 4 bdrms, 3 bath, circ. stairs to fin bsmt., oversize M/Bdrm, skylight, upgraded, big backyard, 2 car garage, steps to synagogues, shopping & transport, CAC, C.Vac and more. Boris Levitin 222-9707 or 764-0865.

• • •

Total Reno! Reduced!
Dream Home! 4 large bdrms, huge lot, walk to shul and all. For more info. please call Gila Wolf 222-9707 / 222-2748.

• • •

Motivated Vendor!!!
$25,000 price reduction! A beautiful fam. home in good neighborhood. Walking distance to Shul, 3+1 bdrms + in-law. For more info. please call Gila Wolf 222-9707 / 222-2748.

• • •

ATKINSON & CENTRE
$459,000 — elegant 4-bdrm. in prestigious Rosedale North. Huge propfessionally landscaped & fenced lot, sunken fam. rm. with frplce. Finished bsmt. Close to synagogue, shopping, TTC & much more. Phyllis Naken, 494-6888.

• • •

BATHURST-GLENCAIRN
3 New listings from $245,000 up.
- 125 Dell Park - 50x104 lot - 2 bdrm. + fin. bsmt. - location.
- 105 Hillmount - 50x140 lot - 3 bdrm. bimg. - fin. bsmt.
- 45 Roberta - 55x130 lot. D. Abraham, Sales Rep., 783-3333.

CONDOS

PRESTIGE 18 LOWER VILLAGE GATE
NEARLY 1,600 SQ. FT., 2 BEDROOMS, CALIFORNIA SHUTTERS THRU-OUT, EAT-IN KITCHEN, WHITE CERAMICS, PARQUET ANMD BROADLOOM, ALL CLOSETS BUILT-INS, TWO WALK-OUTS, SHOWS BEAUTIFULLY. BECKY WENER 494-6888.

• • •

BATHURST-LAWRENCE NOW REDUCED
Condo, low flr., bdrm. + den, garden, sauna, parking, storage; nr. bus, shops, synagogues; clean, early poss. Sylvia Banack, Sales Rep., 783-3333.

• • •

CONDO! CONDO! CONDO!
- Glencairn-Subway choice, $135,000-$179,000, choice of 2-3, view, pool, sauna, laund. rm.
- 155 Marlee 2-3 bdrm.-view, parking, Shabbat elev. D. Abraham, Sales Rep., 783-3333.

TAL-RAM 789-4325

WARREN ROAD / FRYBROOK
Renovated to suit the most discriminating buyer, this 3 storey centre hall Georgian is located in the most prestigious area of Forest Hill. Offered at $2,350,000. Rena and Harry Tsur.

• • •

1ST AD! PRIME STRATHALLAN AREA
$1,075,000. Approximately 3,800 sq. ft. luxury home to be built with stone front, 4 bdrms, 9 ft ceilings, double garage and much more. Susan Teplitsky.

• • •

UPPER VILLAGE — ESTATE SALE
Reduced to $629,000. 4 Bdrm, 4 Bath, 27'x15' Living Rm, high basement with Nanny's quarters, double garage. David Kamil.

• • •

ALLENBY — $375K!
This totally updated 3 bdrm Tudor style home with 28 ft. frontage offers lovely panelling throughout; renovated white kitchen; 2 full baths; fully finished basement and newly landscaped front lawn. Ramon Tsur.

• • •

YONGE/LAWRENCE
Charming, bright home in desirable area. Features private drive, 3 lge bdrms, updated kit. & baths, mn fl den, fin. bsmt & Nanny's rm. $369,000. David Kamil.

• • •

RICHMOND HILL — POWER OF SALE
Off Teefy Ave. Custom built 4 Bdrm + Nanny's Rm on approx. 1/2 acre park-like lot with inground pool. Reduced to $959,000. Susan Teplitsky.

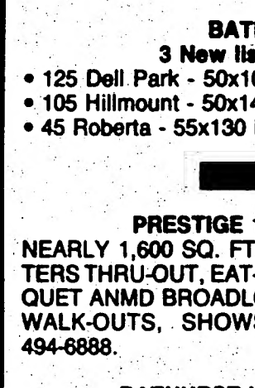
CONDOS

LOWER VILLAGE GATE
The best view from this rarely available 2 bdrm + den condo unit of approx. 1,750 sq. ft. + balcony. $549,000. Ramon Tsur.

• • •

RIDLEY BOULEVARD
2 bedroom condo apartment in well-maintained building. Priced to sell at $177,000! Jack Samuel.

789-4325



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HOMELIFE/PARTNERS REALTY INC.

ANNA CASS
Sales Represntative **229-4454**

FOR PEOPLE WHO CAN'T LIVE WITHOUT WATER
Imagine building your dream home backing on a private lake with 1,000 linear feet of beach front, park and a natural conservation area. This is an exclusive enclave of executive homes. 15 minutes from Toronto by the 404.

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BATHURST/STEELES WALK TO SYNAGOGUES — REDUCED
Located in prestigious village estates on a quiet cul-de-sac this spacious family home was built by quality builder and shows pride of ownership, 4 bdrms, huge gourmet kitchen, partially finished basement, fence, deck landscaping & more.

• • •

RENOVATED 3 BEDROOM BUNGALOW — RICHMOND HILL
Fabulous renolvated starter home, close to U.S.D.S. & high school, walking distance to shopping & all conveniences. 3 bedrooms, hardwood flooring, new kitchen, Jacuzzi, marble, mature garden and more. Only $219,900.!!

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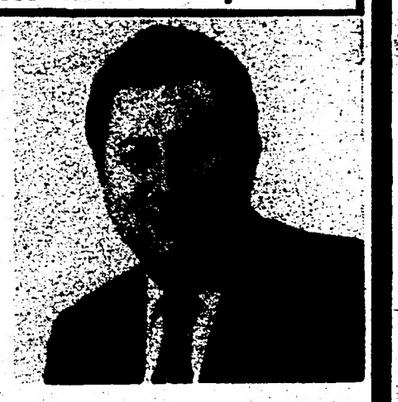
Above the Crowd!



ISRAEL SHAPIRO
Sales Representative

FOR SALE IN NORTH YORK, THORNHILL, RICHMOND HILL

COMPLETELY RENOVATED, side split, new kitchen, skylight, double garage, 41 Clifton, walk to shopping and transportation. Call now.

• • •

4 BEDROOM SEMI. Excellent income, walk out, bsmnt apt Yonge and Finch, presently rented for almost $2,000, vacant possession possible.

• • •

ALMOST 3,000 SQ. FT. 1 year new, Greenpark Homes on Westmount. Priced to sell.

• • •

OVER 2,000 SQ. FT, 4 bdrm house listed at $279,000.

• • •

40 SEAT RESTAURANT on Yonge St, excellent income, excellent lolcation, $89,000.

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Associate Broker **229-4454**

BATHURST MANOR — $599,900 Beautiful executive ranch bungalow approx-3,000 sq ft backing onto ravine - main flr family room, huge hallway - cathedral ceilings.

• • •

LESLIE AND STEELES — $324,900 Executive 2 storey townhome with double garage, 3 large bedrooms, 3 walkouts, 2 fireplaces - walk in from garage - shows magnificently.

• • •

YONGE & FINCH — $299,900 3 storey triplex - 2-2 bedroom units and 1-1 bedroom. Private parking. Live in and rent the others — reduced quick sale.

• • •

BAYVIEW AND 16TH AVENUE — $429,900 Built by Wycliffe approx 3,200 ft Dunvegan model backing onto park - quiet cul de sac, main flr family room & den. Won't last.

• • •

$699,900 YORK DOWNS & BATHURST Lot 66.95 x 254.8 ravine lot. Unique custom bungalow, live in, add on or build.

11 RECORD BREAKING YEARS OF DEDICATED SERVICE

Signature Realty Limited

JUST LISTED ARMOUR HTS Immaculate brick 2 storey home on a 40 x 130 lot, garage, rec rm new white ceramic floor to white kit, upgd wiring, roof, hardwood flrs, 6 appliances, bay window and charm, vendor mot, near 401 & shul. *P. WAISGLASS

H-U-G-E SPRINGFARM HOME * H-U-G-E LOT * GREAT location! Don't miss out on this home on a private court. About 3,800 sq. ft., freshly painted. Just asking $499,000! Call *E. WITT OR *K. VEGOTSKY

STUNNING 4 BDRM, 4 BATHS IN PRIME THORNHILL Location, grey + white decor, fam rm + den, mn flr laundry, pro fin bsmt, black + white kit, upgrades galore. Reduced $349,000 *E. NOYEK

BATHURST/DREWRY!! CUSTOM HOME BUILD TO SUIT!! Build your dream home up to 4,300 sq. ft, 4-5 bdrms, 3 car garage, 4 baths etc. Walkimg distance to synagogue and all amenities. Huge private lot on quiet street. *L. YAKOBSON

JUST REDUCED STUNNING EXCECUTIVE HOME APPROX 3,300 sq ft 4+1 bedrm partial fin basement, gorgeous kit black + white centre island cook top doublove Jacuzzi oak floors french drs Heritage Estates 367K must be seen *L. LANGER

BATHURST CLARK CENTRAL LOCATION WALK TO EVERYWHERE 4+1 bedrms 4 baths hot tub sauna pool landscape large rooms kosher kit 2 dishwasher or can be removed white kit hardwood fl ceramics entrance from garage must be sold. *L. LANGER

730-1077

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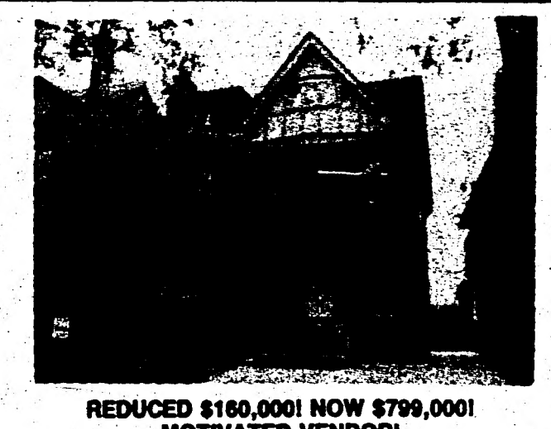
Your Assurance of a Realistic Appraisal Reflecting The Market Environment.



REDUCED $160,000! NOW $799,000!
MOTIVATED VENDOR!
106 CLUNY DRIVE
UNIQUE! UNEXPECTED! EXCLUSIVE!
Welcome to Rosedale — one of Toronto's most exclusive neighbourhoods! This sensational renovated home features 6 bedrooms, sunken family room with cathedral ceilings, gourmet kitchen & complete Nanny's quarters! Ideally located for easy access to downtown by TTC or car and to the schools & stores in the neighbourhood by foot! Fall head over heels with contemporary perfection!

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LOCATIONS
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LESLIE-GREENLANE — $559,900. Spectacular 4 bdrm., mn. flr. fam. rm. & den, $$$ in extras, circular drive, pool-sized fenced

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- **DOVERCOURT/DUPONT.** $159,000. 2 stores, 2 apts.
- **DAVENPORT/OLD WESTON RD.** $199,000. 1 store, 1 apt., ex cellent cond.

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BATHURST/STEELES
Lrge. backsplit on ¼ Ac. lot Great location. Completely upgraded $337,500. **I. Feldman 661-8022**

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DELL PARK
50 Ft. corner lot! Great location only $269,900. **D. Elchorn 787-1712.**

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GLENGROVE
Mint cond! 3 bdrm back-split Near all amenities Only $339,000. **D. Elchorn 787-1712.**

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GLEN RUSH/BEST VALUE
Fab. location near Glencairn 5 yr. new 4,200 Sq. Ft. of luxury Custom built. A must see! **D. Elchorn 787-1712.**

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LYTTON BLVD/ESTATE SALE
Prime prestigious location! Spacious 3 bdrm bung. on 50 x 134 Ft. lot Only $375,000. **D. Elchorn 787-1712.**

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BATHURST-LAWRENCE
1st time offer. 3 bdrm., 2 bths., huge liv. & din., updated kitch., appls., fin. bsmnt., gar., steps to all.

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BATHURST-JCC RAVINE
Lg. 4 bdrm., 4 bths., L-shaped liv. & din., lg. kitch., fam. rm., built-in appls., fin. bsmnt., dbl. gar. A-1 buy!

• • •

BATHURST-WILSON CONDOS
$129,900 & $169,900, 2 or 3 bdrm., bths. & laundry ensuite, appls. J. Rosenthal.

• • •

BATHURST-CLARK $319,900
4 bdrm., 3 bths., sep. liv. & din., lg. kitch. & appls., mn. fl. laundry, fam. rm., w/o, gar., don't miss!

• • •

BATHURST-SHEPPARD
3+ 2 bdrms., split-level, 4 bths., lg. liv. & din., modern kitch., rec. rm., dbl. gar.

• • •

BATHURST-SHEPPARD
$259,900
Ideal starter. 6 rm. bung., 3 bdrms., liv./din. combined, gar., lg. lot. Don't miss.

A. & D. SEIDMAN 633-7373

A PERFECT 10
Richmond Hill
Bayview/16th - Lower Village

5 Bedrooms with 4 ensuites, magnificent marble foyer, hand carved oak library, finished basement - includes all appliances and luxury upgrades - Vendor leaving country. Let's make a deal!

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Realtor

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3 BLOCKS FROM BATHURST
Raised bung. 3 bdrms., 2 baths, sep. entr. to in-law. $280,000.

FIRST TIME BUYER
2 bdrm., 2 kit., 2 baths, comp. renov., w/o to deck, $244,500.

1 Houses For Sale

RANDY KALEF REAL ESTATE INC.

SKYMARK — "THE ELEGANCE"
Fabulous bldg. with million $ facilities. Beautiful corner suite, 2 bdrms. with fam. rm., 3 bths., approx. 1,890 sq. ft. + balc. Terry Hass

• • •

BAYVIEW-SHEPPARD TOWNHOUSE — REDUCED
$269,900. Beautifully upgraded 3 bdrms., 3 bths., fin. lower lev., 2 firepl., Homes & Gardens decor. Terry Hass

443-8818 R

2 Houses For Sale Private

Bathurst/Steeles - Must Sell. 2,800s.f. 4 plus bedrooms, 4 baths. Gourmet kitchen. Sunken family room. Sunken master with sitting area and fireplace. Finished basement. Walk to synagogue and mall. Only $359,000. Annette, 720-7862. 9888

Bathurst/Finch - Large 3 bedroom townhouse. Finished basement. Appliances. Move-in condition. $185,000. 225-0340. 9938

Upper Village. 3 bedroom, 3 bath. 2 fireplaces. Hardwood floors. Near subway. In-law apartment with kitchen. $339,000. 789-9744. 9813

Bathurst/Glencairn - 4 bedroom backsplit, 4 bathroom. Ceramics. Rentable basement. $379,000. 256-3100. 9884

Bathurst/Patricia - 4 bedroom sidesplit, 3 bath. Family room. Lot 58x132'. Upgrades. Reduced. $329,500. 782-8884, 782-9944. No agents. 9947

Bathurst/Clark - York Hill Blvd. 4 bedrooms. White kitchen with solarium. Finished basement. $$ upgrades. 2,800s.f. Pool. $360K. Evenings 881-2674. 9945

Bathurst/Steeles. Ridgegate. 3 bedrooms, 2½ baths. C.A.C. 6 appliances. Finished basement. $254,900. 661-2399. 9653

3 Houses For Rent

Bathurst/Lawrence - Large 2 storey house (2 levels), 3 bedrooms. 5 appliances. Broadloom. Eat-in kitchen. A.C. Large lot. Double driveway. Lovely street. Close to TTC and shopping. $1,300 plus utilities. July 1st. 789-9354. 9862

Attention Western students. Charming 3 bedroom red brick house in choice location, near UWO and downtown. $960. 519-679-2111 ext.5876 (days) or 519-439-2881 (evenings). 9846

Bathurst/Wilson - 2 bedroom detached bungalow near shuls. $825 monthly plus. 785-7770 evenings. 9914

Bathurst/Lawrence - Luxury furnished bungalow. Short or long term. 789-5454. 9956

Renovating? Visiting relatives? Bathurst/Eglinton - Luxurious 4 bedroom. Mid-June- August. $2,500 monthly. 782-4530. 9851

6 Condominiums For Sale

SHEPPARD-YONGE
Rodeo Walk, corner 2-bdrm. + sunden (bdrm.), approx. 1,476 s.f., 2 baths, bsmt. locker, kit. w/window. Only $309,000. Vendor moving out of town. Mr. Santee Leung, 441-2003, **SANTEE REALTY INC.**

BATHURST/FINCH
Lux. 2 bdrm., 2 pkg., park view, 5 appls., lge. balcony, $179,000. PAULINE GOLD, 889-2200 HOMELIFE BAYVIEW

135 Antibes. Upgraded 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Wraparound balcony. 665-3934. 9886

Antibes Drive. 3 bedroom, 2 bath. 5 appliances. High floor. Many $$$ upgrades. Evenings 736-1428. 9832

8 Condominiums For Sale

SKYMARK REVIEW DON MILLS & FINCH

SKYMARK II: unobstructed prime S-E corner; 2 bdrm., fam., lge. balc., 2 ens. + pwdr., 2 pkg. Seldom available, don't miss it. For our updated inventory call Santee Leung, **THE SKYMARK SPECIALIST**, 441-2003/24 hrs. on call, carphone + pager. **SANTEE REALTY INC.**

• **7460 BATH** 2 bd., corner, $199,900. Lucy Melamud, 731-7111.
• **7420 BATHURST.** 2 bd., corner $209,900. G. Goldring, 731-7111.
• **PRIMROSE.** Great view. $198,000. Gabby Goldring, 731-7111.
• **130 NEPTUNE.** 2 bd., 2 bths., $149,900. T. Balaban, 731-7111.
• **133 TORRESDALE.** 3 bd., solarium, $209,900. S. Hochman, 731-7111.
UNGERMAN RLTY. RLTR.

Quality building. Desirable location. Spacious 3 bedroom condo. 2 full bathrooms. Immaculate condition. Bright southern exposure. 2 balconies, ensuite laundries. Shabbat elevator. 2 parking. 5 appliances. Near shopping, transportation, synagogues. Low maintenance. Pool and tennis. Available immediately. 398-7119. 9706

10 Accommodation Available

Bathurst/Sheppard - Furnished room. Private washroom. Parking. Kosher. Professional female preferred. 638-9240 after 5pm, no Shabbos. 9838

Room available in private home. Use of all facilities. Female preferred. Sheppard/ Bathurst. Parking. Reasonable. 633-1802 mornings or after 6pm. 9861

12 Shared Accommodation

Bayview/Steeles - Mature female. Non-smoker. Furnished room. Parking. $500 monthly. 221-0740. 9905

24 year old male moving to Toronto for medical internship, seeking non-smoking male roommate. 519-642-7849, message. 9859

Professional businessman, 50, looking to share new condo with same. Kipling/ Steeles. 665-4071. 9941

Bathurst/Finch - Lower level of luxury townhouse. Private bath, cable. Shared kitchen. Very quiet. Suit 2 non-smoking females. $600. 665-8674. 9923

Roommate needed. Share with Jewish female. Days 867-6012, nights 481-5540. 9926

Marlee/Ridelle - Young professional female needed to share 3 bedroom, 2 bath apartment. Parking. Non-smoker. June 1st. 785-5760. 9871

Davisville/Yonge - Non-smoking female. Renovated 2 bedroom, 2nd floor apartment with separate street entrance. Parking. Laundry. Balcony. July 1st. $600 monthly. 482-9944. 9847

St.Clair/Walmer - Bathurst subway. Luxury apartment to share with male professional. Spacious sunlit 2 bedroom. $600, Health Club included. Kosher, non-smoker. 927-1067. 9842

13 Apartments For Rent

Bathurst/Clark - 2 bedroom basement. Fully furnished. Complete kitchen and bath. Minutes walk to BAYT and Lubavitch. Steps from bus and shopping. 15 minutes from York. 889-6097, no Shabbos calls. 9885

Bathurst/Lawrence - Fully furnished 2 bedroom in 6-plex to sublet for 1 year. June. 789-4878. 9857

Furnished basement apartment for single person. Bathurst/ Roselawn. 782-6682. 9895

Bathurst/Wilson - Furnished 1 bedroom basement. Full bath. Religious home. 782-2929. 9948

Bathurst/Wilson - 3 bedroom, 2 bath in triplex. Garage. 638-4723 after 6pm. 9912

Bathurst/Wilson - Lovely 3 bedroom, 2 baths. 1 year or more sublet. Furnished/ unfurnished. 633-2898. 9845

13 Apartments For Rent

Bathurst/Lawrence - Modern 1 bedroom. Balcony. Parking. Laundry. Sublet. 1 year. June. 789-4878. 9856

Bathurst/Wilson - Furnished 1 bedroom basement. Full bath. Religious home. 782-2929. 9948

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Bathurst/Steeles. Ridgegate. 3 bedrooms, 2½ baths. C.A.C. 6 appliances. Finished basement. $254,900. 661-2399. 9653

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Bathurst/Wilson - Lovely 3 bedroom, 2 baths. 1 year or more sublet. Furnished/ unfurnished. 633-2898. 9845

13 Apartments For Rent

Bathurst/Lawrence - Modern 1 bedroom. Balcony. Parking. Laundry. Sublet. 1 year. June. 789-4878. 9856

Bathurst/York Downs - Furnished bachelor basement. Appliances. Parking. Close to synagogues. Separate entrance. 631-7738. 9837

19 Cottages For Rent

100' Lakefront. Simcoe. Orillia. 3 bedrooms. June through September or monthly. 223-6824. 9840

Kawartha Highlands. 2 bedroom lakefront. Sandy beach. June 20-August 1, after Labour Day. 449-6936. 9870

Balfour Beach. Lake Simcoe. 3 bedrooms. Close to water. Summer camp available. July. 785-3838 evenings. 9852

Beaverton area. Lakefront executive 4 bedroom. Fully furnished. Tennis. Monthly or seasonally. 226-0009, 749-6600. 9611

Muskoka/Bracebridge - Modern 3 bedroom lakefront. Boating, fishing. Season. 731-4466. 9943

Georgian Bay area. 5 bedroom, 3 baths. Perfect for 2 families with children. Magnificent view. Great for entertaining. Seasonal. 230-5227. 9762

20 Cottages For Sale

JACKSON'S POINT WATERFRONT

Magnificent estate home (over 4,000 sq. ft.) right on the tip of Jackson's Point. Great views, 10' ceilings on M/Flr., original stone exterior & wood interior, 8 bdrms., over 400' of waterfront. Could also be ideal for bed & breakfast. Unlimited potential for the ultimate retrerat. $595,000.
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Muskoka/Bracebridge - Modern 3 bedroom lakefront. Boating, fishing. $120,000. 731-4466. 9944

Belle Ewart. Great buy. Over 80' waterfront. Lot approx. 250' deep. 5 bedroom winterized cottage. Prime location near marinas/ synagogues. Sandy lake bed. Boathouse. $475,000. 731-8032. 9808

Belle Ewart/Alcona - Rare opportunity. Beautiful private lot with 100' of sandy lake frontage. Winterized. 4 bedroom, 2 bath home, on sewers, with attached 2 bedroom, 1 bath guest house on quiet dead end street. Large deck. $575,000. 941-8814. 9869

Washago/Orillia - Waterfront. 76'x265' lot. Jewish community. 3 bedrooms. Fireplace. New front deck and roof. 32' dock. $159,900. 322-8326. 9878

Belle Ewart. 50' lakefront winterized cottage. Shallow sandy swimming. 4 bedrooms, 2 washrooms. $339,000. 256-0886.

21 Cottages For Sale/Rent

Belle Ewart. 3 bedrooms near beach. Near synagogue. $129,000. 764-8334. 9889

23 Florida Property For Rent

Naples, Moorings area. First class furnished complete 2br, 2ba and more. $795.00 month annually. Telephone 705-567-4671. 9882

24 Florida Property For Sale

Pompano Beach. Exciting 3 bedroom, 2½ bath apartment in spa area. Newly furnished, contemporary decor. Near shopping. Motorized shutters. Many extras. $159,900u.s. 407-588-4363 Carol. 9872

Pembroke Pines. Century Village. 1 bedroom apartment. Shopping buses, on-call health care. Security. $10mil clubhouse. $43K. 883-4749. 9864

27 Israel Properties

Ramat Motza, Jerusalem. New detached 4 bedrooms. Large lot. 395-1846 evenings. 9856

Property in Israel wanted. All kinds. Call Mr. Jacobs. 771-1915.

Jerusalem. Central. Near Wolfson. Furnished 4 bedroom apartment. Knesset view. Available monthly or longer term. Kosher. Shomer Shabbos. 633-8903. 9813

Israel properties wanted, willing to pay in cash dollars. Zohar 667-0956. 9789

38 Announcements

Jewish Singles Directory- nominal charge. Jewish Information Service, 635-5600. 9595

39 Social Announcements

Green-Brown
Sid and Susan Green and Italo and Yvette Cirone are proud to announce the engagement of their daughter Lora Andrea Green to Grant Howard Brown, son of Joseph and Harriet Brown. Proud sisters and brother are Lisa Green, and Blair and Marnee Brown. 9916

The family of the late Howard Lawrence Coleman wish to thank all our friends and relatives that remembered us in our time of sorrow. 9892

42 Articles for Sale

Mont Blanc writing instruments. Sales, service. Authorized dealer. Mother's and Father's days and Weddings. 638-1020. 9807

An antique Louis XVI French loveseat. $1,000. 731-2769.

45 Employment Opportunities

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Youth Director, P/T, for suburban Philidelphia Orthodox synagogue. Experience preferred. Resumes to Youth Committee, Lower Merion Synagogue, 123 Old Lancaster Road, Bala Cynwyd, PA, 19004. 9883

Full-time religious high school requires observant teacher of Judaic studies for classroom and senior administrative duties in the Judaic programme. Mail applications to: Chairman, Board of Education, 1346 West 26th Avenue, Vancouver, B.C., V6H 2B1. Please include curriculum vitae and references. 9881

Legal secretary required for intellectual property law firm located in Markham area. Must have excellent skills. Contact Helen Pavich, 771-6414. 9884

Desktop Wizard Produce posters, flyers, reports, database management for student organization at York University. Familiarity with Macintosh computers and programs a must, especially Microsoft Word and Works, PageMaker 4. Creativity and flexibility highly valued. Part-time, varying hours depending on workload. Call Claire Sookman, 736-5178.

46 Employment Opportunities

I.C. & I. MANAGER (PARTNERSHIP POSSIBILITY)
Experienced salespersons share your real estate career with successful staff. Call Ted Chester, **444-6311**

47 Employment Wanted

All purpose male. Pleasant and reliable. Looking for office, sales or delivery work. Fridays and/or Saturdays. 241-0048. 9865

49 Financial Opportunities

Fountain pens/Wristwatches. All types wanted by collector. Will pay from $5 to $5,000 for your old pen or wristwatch. Ray, 278-2075.

50 Domestic Help Available

ALL HEALTH SERVICES INC.
- Companions for the elderly (Health Care Aides with CPR & Emergency First Aid Certificate)
- Homemakers
- Babysitters (with CPR for Child & Infant Certificates)

You may be surprised at how little it costs for such a convenience.
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AVAILABLE IMMEDIATELY
Top Nannies, Housekeepers and Companions
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Experienced European lady seeks work cleaning houses and apartments. Honest and reliable. Mississauga district. Reasonable rates. 279-0264. 9925

Cleaning lady available. Apartments and houses. Experienced, references. Lorn 740-5846. 9736

Israeli woman available immediately for house/apartment cleaning; light housekeeping; babysitting, etc. References. Call Yaffa, 739-7212 or Nelly 631-9493. 9911

Middle aged lady seeks work looking after elderly or as nanny. Excellent housekeeper. Experienced. References. Live-in/out. Reasonable. 223-3708. 9863

Certified H.C.A. Nurse will care for elderly or handicapped in the home or institution. Experienced. References. 754-8942. 9836

High quality house cleaning. Call Dora, 736-1179. 9259

Nannies/Housekeepers - Live-in/out, available for immediate and future placement. Reasonable rates. Licensed. Domestic Referral Services. Ellen Shiewitz. 886-1630. 9784

51 Domestic Help Wanted

Live-in nanny. Full-time. 2 children. Thornhill. References and experience required. Legal. Start A.S.A.P. 733-4276. 9917

Needed: Mature responsible babysitter. Live-out. References. 222-8122. 9915

52 Personals

Tel-Aide: the Jewish Distress Line. Can we add some sunshine to your life? 636-9610. 9606

U of T student, 22, male, looking for a travelling partner to see Europe/Israel. June-August. Box 5466 CJN. 9841

Parents with teenagers 16 and up, to meet with others from Burlington and Oakville for social activities. 534-9962. 9850

53 Business Personals

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53 Business Personals

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55 Obituaries

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Rachel Caimus on Apr 10/92, late of 55 Ameer #505.
Julius Levine on Apr 10/92, late of 398 Avenue Rd. #324.
Helen Nusbaum on Apr 9/92, late of 4003 Bayview Ave. #1009.
Elsa Wijnperle on Apr 9/92, late of 120 Shelborne Avenue #1412.
Cecil Linder on Apr 10/92, late of 335 Lonsdale Road #402.
Ruth Levenston on Apr 11/92, late of 61 Rowanwood Avenue.
Gary Kershen on Apr 11/92, late of 4 Kirkwood Road.
Jennie Pratz on Apr 12/92, late of 3642 Morning Star Drive.
Leah Roston on Apr 12/92, late of 11 Kennedy Park Road #205.
Ida Gordon on Apr 14/92, late of 535 Sheppard Avenue W. #305.
Harriett Fine on Apr 15/92, late of 10 Senlac Avenue.
Bessie Stopper on Apr 14/92, late of 20 Shelborne Avenue.
Max Glickman on Apr 16/92, late of 1 Canyon Avenue #903.

BENJAMIN'S PARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL

55 Obituaries

Antflick, Bessie on April 23, 1992, late of 71 Regina Avenue.
Bramnik, Iouri on April 21, 1992.
Cohen, Joseph on April 22, 1992, late of 296 Unit 1, Torresdale.
Mandel, Lily on April 23, 1992, late of Baycrest.
Oksenhendler, Moses on April 24,1992, late of 112 Kennard Ave.
Polonski, Volf on April 24, 1992, late of 5430 Yonge St., #117.
Schwarcz, Esther on April 21, 1992, late of 5430 Yonge St., #304.
Smith, (Rozsa) Jolan on April 25, 1992, late of Baycrest.
Szilagyi, Zalgmond on April 22, 1992.
Wolfowicz, Leon on April 21, 1992.

Steeles-College Memorial Chapel

56 Unveilings

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
Frida (Fritzy) Leibovici ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, May 17, 11:45 a.m.
Mount Sinai Memorial Park
Palmerston Section
Relatives & friends are invited to attend.

56 Unveilings

The unveiling of a monument to the beloved memory of the late **Lew Dash** will take place on Sunday, May 10, 1992, 12:00noon, at Pardes Shalom Cemetery, Community Section. Relatives and friends are invited to attend.
9844

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late beloved
Sam Markin ז"ל
(Bleicher)
will take place
Sunday, May 10th, 11:00 a.m.
Pardes Shalom Cemetery
B'nai Torah Section
Relatives & friends are invited to attend.

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
MAX BER ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, May 17th, 10:15 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Shaarei Shomayim Section
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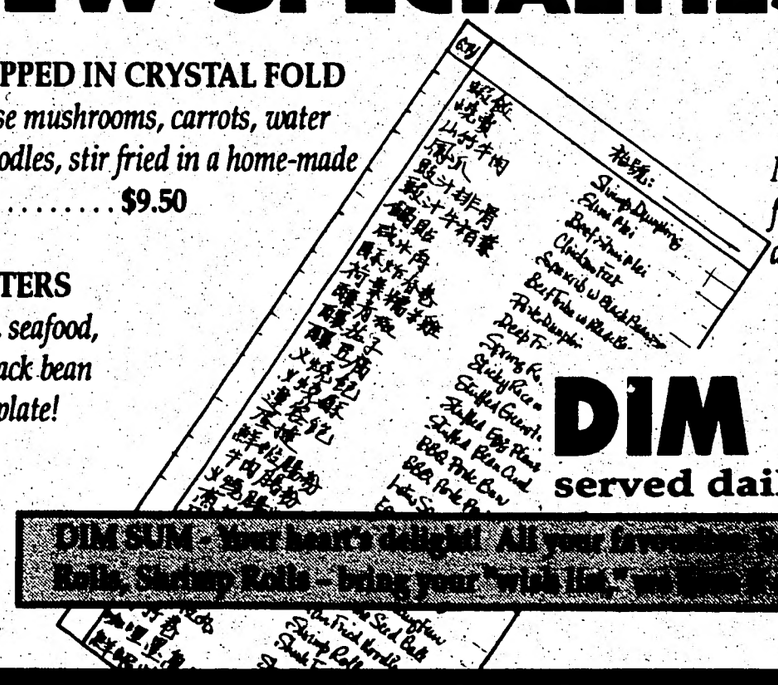

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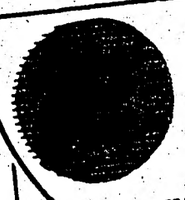

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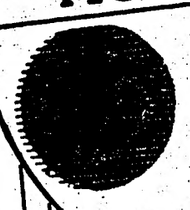

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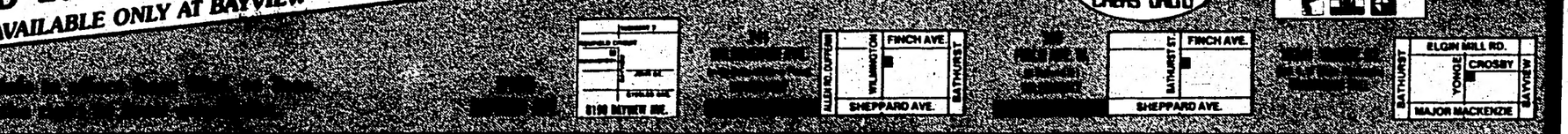


Viewpoints

VOLUME XX, NUMBER 2, 1992 | THE CANADIAN JEWISH PERIODICAL

Supplement to The Canadian Jewish News, May 7, 1992

Interview with Les Scheininger,
National President, Canadian Jewish Congress

Interviewed by Shel Krakofsky, Editor, Parchment Magazine

SK: What do you feel are the key issues that should be addressed at the forthcoming Canadian Jewish Congress National Plenary Assembly, May 20-24, 1992, in Toronto?

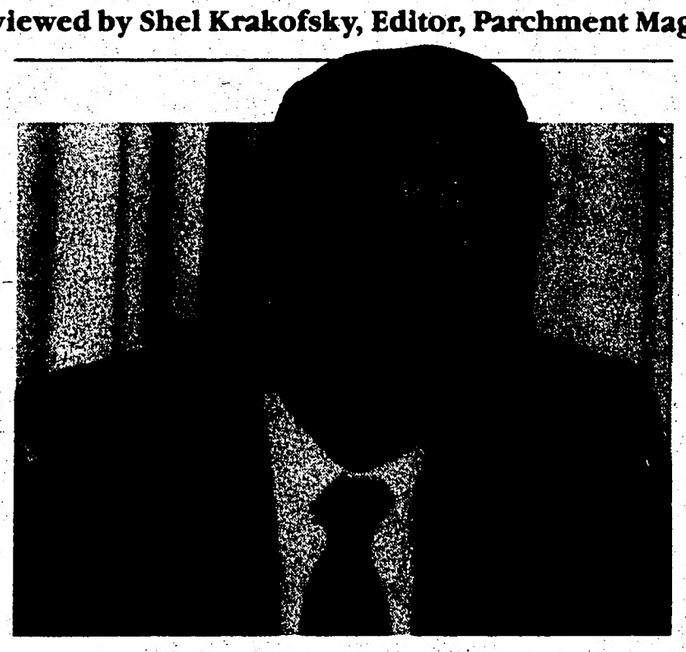
LS: One of the major themes at this upcoming Plenary is national unity. The Canadian Jewish community has been involved and has played an integral role in the development of Canadian society and the Constitution of Canada. Again, during this last series of Constitutional discussions Canadian Jewry has participated very actively. We, therefore, believe it is important to address the issue during the course of our upcoming Plenary. At the same time, we will certainly be addressing the ongoing issues on the Canadian Jewish agenda — Israel, the issues of racism and anti-Semitism, Nazi war criminals, world Jewry, and the continuity of Jewish life here in Canada.

SK: In terms of Canadian bilingual unity, what role do you see for the Jewish Congress in the ongoing national debate?

LS: As I indicated, the Jewish community in Canada has always played a very important role in the development of the Canada which we know. One really has to go back in history to the time when the Canadian Jewish community responded to the report on Biculturalism and Bilingualism. The response of the Canadian Jewish community was that there is another element to Canadian society that cannot be ignored, and that was the element of the various different cultures that make up Canadian society. If one were to identify one individual who really developed the concept of multiculturalism in this country, I think one has to look to Saul Hayes and his response to the report on Biculturalism and Bilingualism. So, going back to that point in history and looking at the participation of Canadian Jewry during all discussions over the years, including our response to the Meech Lake Accord and our most recent activities spearheaded by Canadian Jewish Congress's Quebec Region Community Relations Chairman, Max Bernard of Montreal, one realizes that Canadian Jewry had and continues to have an important stake in ensuring that we have a united Canada. At the same time there must be the appropriate recognition of the rights of those who make up multicultural Canada in the context of a distinct society in Quebec and the need to enhance and encourage the development of the Quebec culture and the French language.

SK: Most Jews in Canada would agree with the initiatives of Congress in terms of multiculturalism because it is in their very best interests. However, there are issues which are also divisive amongst Jews in this country that Congress will also be debating at the Plenary. Describe some of the possibly contentious issues.

LS: We are not a monolithic community. Canadian Jews engage in ongoing dialogue and discussion with respect to various positions and policies taken by the Israeli government and the people of Israel. We encourage this type of discussion and I anticipate that there will be lively sessions with respect to Israel in the context of the upcoming elections and the ongoing peace process. At the same time, we all recognize the very fundamental and strong support there is within the Jewish community towards Israel, whether we agree with specific policies and strategies of the government of the day or not. There is a very basic unifying force amongst all Canadian Jews in



terms of their feelings towards Israel, the bonds with Israel, and the need to ensure that there is a strong and secure Israel for our future generations.

SK: Israel will always be a priority in the Diaspora, obviously, but have you seen in your three years the priorities of Canadian Jewish Congress changing?

LS: When I assumed the position of the President of Canadian Jewish Congress I approached it in the same manner that I had approached other positions that I have taken in the Jewish community. I attempted to develop a strategic plan, taking into consideration what what I felt were the priorities of the community. Over the last three years, I need not tell you, tremendous changes have taken place throughout the world — changes that one could not have anticipated. The walls of Communism crumbled and the Europe we knew was transformed. However, with these tremendous changes which we welcomed in many ways, came new concerns. The uncertainties of rapid change, the re-emergence of nationalist movements and severe economic problems reminded us of past history and raised concerns of a rise in anti-Semitism. At the same time, we also experienced the rewards of years of tears and toil with the release of Soviet Jews and Operation Exodus.

SK: Has that affected budgetary concerns unduly?

LS: I think the Canadian Jewish community has always accepted and strived to meet its obligations and responsibilities as a leading Jewish community in the world. The Canadian Jewish community again responded to the urgent needs with Operation Exodus and I believe that the Canadian Jewish community responded in an admirable fashion, not only addressing the needs for resettlement of Soviet and Ethiopian Jews in Israel, but also the ongoing needs of Israel as well as the Canadian Jewish community.

SK: What was Congress' attitude towards those Jews coming out of what was then the Soviet Union and coming, not to Israel, but to Canada?

LS: There are two sides to the issue. The Soviet Jewry advocacy movement was, in reality, a Zionist movement — a movement that encouraged, assisted and lobbied for the release of Jews to return to their homeland. So certainly we marvelled at the miracle when Jews were released from the Soviet Union. At the same time we also recognized that for some there was a connection with Canada. Some have family or close ties with Canada. As matters developed and as we noticed the disintegration of a lot of the institutions in the Soviet Union, there was a heightened sense of concern with respect to anti-Semitism and, indeed, violence towards Jews. Our priority was really to get as many Jews out as quickly as possible. For those Jews who had a connection with Canada, we encouraged the government, and in fact lobbied the government of Canada to facilitate the emigration of Jews from the Soviet Union to Canada. At the same time, we did everything we could in terms of raising funds for Operation Exodus to ensure that as many Jews as possible left for Israel.

SK: Congress is obviously involved with promoting Zionism among Canadian Jews, and non-Jews for that matter, with absorbing or promoting aliyah to Israel from any country, including Canada, and of course to fighting anti-Semitism. This is a traditional three-pronged approach to Congress. However, what about internal Canadian Jewish life? What are the plans for Congress to attack that never-ending, and what seems to be a growing pattern, of people marrying out of the Jewish religion, and people divorcing at such a high rate and having a small birthrate? The predictions, of course, are that the Canadian jewish population is going to go down over the next few decades or so. Does Congress have any plans to, if it is possible, politically combat such a trend?

LS: The Canadian Jewish community is a very strong and well-respected Jewish community. We have a sophisticated and tremendously effective community in Canada in terms of fund-raising, shuls, social service agencies and education. But as you have pointed out, there are two interrelated major issues to which we have to devote more attention and resources. One is the issue of assimilation and inter-marriage, and the second is the necessity of providing proper Jewish education which is the cornerstone of Jewish continuity and survival. Canadian Jewish Congress is attempting to coordinate and provide services to the educational institutions of the Jewish community here in Canada to ensure the survival, continuity, and development of Jewish life in Canada. So we recognize the importance of the issue and it is one of the most important problematic areas for us as a community.

SK: Is there anything specific you are worried about, aside from the obvious trends to intermarriage and assimilation?

LS: I continue to worry about the issues. I have no regrets in terms of my term as president of Canadian

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SYMPOSIUM: THE CHANGING NATURE OF ISRAELI-DIASPORA RELATIONS

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EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK

A decade ago, the idea of a Symposium on "The Changing Nature of Diaspora-Israeli Relations" would have been deemed irrelevant. The slogan "We Are One" was universally accepted, and the possibility of a change in the rock-solid bond between Israel and World Jewry seemed unthinkable. And yet, such discussions are beginning to appear in serious Anglo-Jewish publications both in North America and in Israel itself.

The bond remains, but tensions are beginning to appear due to the drastic changes that are sweeping both Mideast and Western countries. We feel that a frank and open discussion of these developing tensions is timely and we present in this issue three widely divergent perspectives on how they arose and how they are to be dealt with. Only by such honest exchanges can we hope to defuse these stresses and make certain that the slogan "We Are One" remains a reality and not empty rhetoric.

The three participants in our symposium are Dr. Emil Fackenheim, one of Jewry's most eminent theologians now living in Israel, Stephen Albert and Eugene Kaellis.

It has become a *Viewpoints* tradition to present to our readers an interview with the President of Canadian Jewish Congress in advance of the triennial Convention of Congress which this year will be held in Toronto on May 20-24. Our interviewer is Dr. Shel Krakofsky, a Viewpoints Contributing Editor.

Professor Morton Weinfeld in his piece, *The "Oy Gevalt" Syndrome* presents some interesting, surprising and encouraging statistics on the Jewish life-styles of younger Jewish Canadian adults, which should alleviate to some degree the concerns over the apparent disappearance of young Jews from Synagogue and Jewish community involvement.

If asked about the meaning of a *mezuzah* the average Jew would probably paraphrase Gertrude Stein's famous phrase to read: "A *mezuzah* is a *mezuzah* is a *mezuzah*." Michael Greenstein's profound analysis of the theological and literary connotations of the *mezuzah* in Jewish history and its attraction for Canadian poets today as a durable symbol of, in his words, "history, Exodus and Exile," so integral to the classic Jewish condition, makes fascinating reading. It is particularly appropriate in this Passover season, and we accompany it with a poem by Shel Krakofsky who contrasts the symbolism of the "lovingly encased" parchment in the *mezuzah* with the proudly waving flags of the world's nations which have so often led those nations from patriotic pride to chauvinistic prejudice.

The "Oy Gevalt" Syndrome

by Morton Weinfeld

The following is a summary of a report on Synagogue attendance among teens and young adults given to a Symposium held recently by the Synagogue Council of Montreal.

I don't know to what extent there is a real intergenerational chasm regarding the synagogue. I will present some evidence and some interpretation, and will let you be the judge of the seriousness of the problem that we are confronting. I will focus my remarks on synagogues, synagogue attendance and the role of synagogues, rather than issues like intermarriage.

First, Jews in Montreal and North America are not terrific 'shul' goers. In 1979, I directed a survey of the Montreal Jewish community, looking at household heads, predominantly males, and likely to be older. One question asked: how often during the course of the year do you go to synagogue, excluding weddings and bar-mitzvahs? The answer: 20% said 'never' — they never go to shul — 30% said they only go on high holidays. So, half of the Jewish heads of households in Montreal, either never went to shul or only went on High Holidays. In communities like Montreal and others in North America, there are many ways of being Jewish; shul-going is only one. There are many community organizations, there are connections with Israel, there are social ties, there are cultural institutions.

The "Oy Gevalt" Syndrome

Second, there has been for years in the literature on Jewish sociology, and particular on Jewish youth in North America, a syndrome which I call the "oy gevalt" syndrome. Our discussion tonight is not the first time this question has been raised: "Where Are Our Children? What's happening to the younger generation?" Much relevant research was done in the 1950s and the 1960s primarily in the United States. These studies were of Jewish high school and university students, in which the researchers would ask all kinds of questions: How often do they go to shul, do they observe rituals, do they observe shabbat, and the like. They found that positive responses were very low; and this led to a tremendous concern about the problem of assimilation — "the vanishing Jew."

But the fact is, that Judaism is a life-cycle religion. It is probably wrong to focus investigation on Jewish teenagers and young adults and expect them to show high levels of synagogue involvement. That's not where they're at. They're in high school, they're away in college, they're busy having fun, they're learning and they're not interested in going to synagogue. I don't know how much can be done about it. The foundations of future Judaism are likely laid in childhood and adolescence, before they hit 18 or 20. Many of those same college students who were low scorers in the 1950s and 1960s studies of Jewish youngsters and teenagers, may show greater involvement with organized Jewish life, including the synagogue. If you actually look at synagogue involvement, it follows a life-cycle pattern: People join synagogues after they get married, or they have their first children, or their children reach school-age, or they reach bar or bat-mitzvah age. This is the kind of life-cycle element that is built into synagogue involvement. Now, from a Rabbinic perspective, from a Halachic perspective, obviously one would wish for more than just life-cycle involvement with the synagogue. This has been called pediatric Judaism, and I leave it to the Rabbis to discuss. (By the way — there's another blip upward in synagogue attendance: post-retirement. There is a greater involvement of elderly Jewish males returning to the synagogue to help make the minyans, and perhaps of women involved in sisterhoods. This is again part of the life-cycle phenomenon. Saying Kaddish, and Yahrzeit after that, are highly observed rituals.)

Synagogue Attendance Follows Life-Cycle Pattern

But in general, what we find is that Jewish religious observance tends to be infrequent, touchpoints in the Jewish religion tend to be infrequent, and only the life-cycle occasions like kaddish, Bar or Bat Mitzvah, birth and brit tend to be rigorously observed across all denominations.

Now, let me bring more concrete information with regard to what, in fact, is going on in Canada right now with regard to Jewish religious observance. A study was done of the Canadian Jewish community financed by the CRB foundation. The study surveyed roughly 1,000 Jews from across the country, so what I am going to report to you now is evidence from across Canada and not limited to Montreal. We can break down the responses by age, and can compare responses of those Jews who are 65 and older — presumably the more devout, the more attached, the more traditional Jews, and those from the under 35 group: (the second figure refers to younger respondents).

The results are: attending Passover Seder, 87% to 96%, so those "youngsters" are certainly showing up at Seder; lighting Chanukah candles, 80% to 86%, higher for the younger; fasting on Yom Kippur, 70% to 82%, also higher for the younger; lighting Shabbat candles, 58% to 50%, a little lower. (Please remember that in the under 35 group, we have many unmarried, not living in a family environment). Observing Kashruth, 49% and 49%; not touching money on shabbat 13%, up to 21%. I know we are not supposed to talk about denominations, but let me just mention one figure: in terms of the proportion who are members of Orthodox synagogues, the 65 plus — 22%, age 35 and under — up to 37%! That's partially because the Orthodox fertility rate is higher than that for the other groups. One other sociological difference I'll point out — the percentage that reports most of their close friends are Jewish, 79% of the 65 plus, 76% for the under 35. In other words, the "clannishness" of the Jews is found right across the age spectrum. Now, I won't go through all the other variables. In some cases, we find slight declines, like reading a Jewish newspaper, down for the younger; belonging to a Jewish organization, down for the under 35; fluency in Yiddish, way down: 64% to 14%, but fluency in Hebrew, up from 20% to 35%, so there is some movement upwards in regard to that. Having visited Israel, 65% for the 65 plus, 70% for the 35 and under.

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Viewpoints

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The Three Pillars of Today's Zionism

by Emil L. Fackenheim

A few months ago I addressed a group of Jewish teachers from America, visiting in Jerusalem. The subject was Jewish Education in the Diaspora. Part of it was Diaspora as an age-old and valid Jewish category and reality — age-old because Diaspora *in* Babylon preceded return to Jerusalem *from* Babylon; valid because it created a Talmud more authoritative than its Jerusalem counterpart. Also part of my subject was Diaspora, as not of the past only, but a future-laden category as well, since in many places Christians, too, have begun to consider themselves a Diaspora. I did not present myself to the visitors, then, as the kind of Zionist who views the Jewish Diaspora as doomed or valueless. However, I was scandalized — nothing less! — when the question period produced this one: "Why did you confine your scope to the Diaspora? Shouldn't Jewish education be the same in Israel and the Diaspora?"

I held my breath for a moment and replied: "There is just one small difference: Israelis spend three years in the armed forces, risk their lives, and some get killed. If *this* were no part of *Israeli*-Jewish education, it would lose all credibility, and justly be sneered at by most Israelis."

I was reminded of this episode when asked by *Viewpoints* to comment on Yossi Klein Halevi's "The changing Nature of Diaspora-Israeli Relations." His essay begins with citing Leon Wieseltier on the "'friendly competition' between the Israeli and American Jewish communities for the soul of the late 20th century Jew." What, I ask, is the man talking about? Does the Jewish "soul" have nothing to do with risking a Jewish life for the Jewish state? And, to hark back to my American listeners of a few months ago — good people, good Jews, Jewish educators, lovers of Israel — what was that Diaspora Jewish teacher talking about when he ignored, among Jewish commitments to which Jewish education is geared, the one so radical as to involve life itself? My lecture had taken place not long after the scud missiles had fallen on Tel Aviv and Haifa; was not the first duty of the comfortable Diaspora soul, whether of those teachers or of Wieseltier, both visiting Jerusalem after it was over, to express shame for having stayed away then, and the second duty a vow to do better next time?

Thus I was scandalized twice, not, however, surprised even once, because of the following. At the time of the scuds I wrote an article for *Viewpoints*, about Soviet Olim coming just then, preferring as they did to risk getting killed in the Jewish state to cowering, in fear of antisemites, in corners or attics where they had been. The essay was duly published but with a changed title. "The Heroic Age of the Jewish people," had been mine. The editors substituted "Why Russian Jews Continue to Come to Israel." The implication was immediately clear: "We Jews in Montreal or Toronto or Winnipeg fear for Israel, so much so as to be scared even to visit her ourselves; also, we are proud of, and inspired by, other Jews who, at this of all times, choose to move there to live: we admire them from a distance. But all this has nothing to do with what we ourselves are doing or should be doing." In short, this may be heroic age for Russian Jews; but whatever age it may be for the Diaspora, the heroic age it is not.

This change of title was done without my knowledge or permission, and I use this opportunity to record my protest, in the pages of *Viewpoints* itself.

Has All This Become Of The Dead Past?

Now, since Madrid, all this has become of the dead past. But has it?

Item: Hanan Ashwari, the darling of the media, is asked to condemn the wanton murder of Israeli civilians by Palestinian terrorists; after all, one cannot very well sit down and discuss peace and at the same time wage war on civilians. Her response: she condemns all violence against innocent civilians. Many people are happy, and most are satisfied. Nobody notices that "there are no innocent Israelis, civilians included" has been the PLO line all along. *Ergo:* whether Ashwari wants peace or is merely an exceptionally well-trained enemy propagandist we do not know.

War With The PLO Not Yet Over

Item: PLO chief Yasser Arafat and others have said that they accept UN Resolution 242 — that they no longer want to destroy Israel. But destruction of Israel is what the PLO National Covenant demands, and to this day it is neither abrogated nor even amended. *Ergo:* We do not know whether Arafat wishes but, what with remaining opponents, as yet cannot abrogate or amend the Covenant, or whether his acceptance of the resolution is yet another of his many lies. Hence even the most radical Israeli or Diaspora peacenik must conclude that, putting it minimally, the war with the Palestinians — the PLO is their "sole legitimate" representative — is not yet over.

Item: UN Resolution 242 is supposed to be the basis of what Madrid has begun, and that it means "peace for territory" is accepted wisdom, less-than-universally-accepted only on account of Shamir-type stubbornness. However, the wisdom and the stubbornness are both questionable.

242 requires withdrawal from occupied territories, but not from *the* occupied territories. The "the" was deliberately omitted at the time by people who knew what they were doing; but enemies have lied about the omitted "the" for decades, and now even friends talk as if 242 spelled out *to which* territories withdrawal applies. However, since 242 contains no such spelling out, those who do it on the resolution's behalf have become dubious friends. The truth of 242, of course, is that withdrawal is subject to negotiations.

First Pillar Is Israel's Survival And Security

242 requires no withdrawal at all unless and until it is preceded by reliable peace-treaties with all relevant Arab states; of this date only one has made such a treaty; and the behaviour even of this one raises doubts as to its reliability. *Ergo:* while much more could be said about 242 — more will be said about Jerusalem —, no more need presently be said than this: *the war for Israel's survival in security is not yet over.* Hence, *the first pillar of contemporary Zionism is Israel's survival and security.* It is apt to call it "pillar" since, if it collapses, *everything* collapses.

Then what of talk about Diaspora-Israeli "competition," friendly or otherwise, for the "soul" of the Jew of today? To say the least, it is premature, and in its prematurity silly and irrelevant. It is rendered so by the truly relevant and, indeed, most basic question about Israeli-Diaspora relations: who chooses to be in the front-line, and what is owed them by those who, choosing otherwise, by way of support?

Second Pillar: The Law Of Return

We reach the second pillar of contemporary Zionism through the following incident that occurred right after the war. In one of the camps, a circular was passed around, asking the survivors where, if given the chance, they should or would go. One of their number wrote "to [then] Palestine"; but then they discovered that he actually planned to go to some other country. How come? he was asked. He replied that he had not been guilty of subterfuge since he thought that Jews *as Jews* should go and strengthen the Yishuv; but for his part, he would find refuge with his relatives.

This was not a case of deviousness but rather articulated a distinction that many still have to learn. No responsible Jewish leader ever denied individual Jews the right to make their own choices, given the chance, whether of country or of life-style. But individual rights are one thing, collective policy is quite another. Concerning this latter, there has been an Israeli consensus all along. They are divided on many or even most things, the presently most important cleavage being between right-wing hawks and left-wing doves. But a government that even hinted at revoking the Law of Return would collapse at once. *The Law of Return is the second pillar of contemporary Zionism; without it, even if the state itself survived, it would collapse as a Zionist state.* Next only to the survival of the state itself, the end of the Jewish exile is, as it were, part and parcel of the "civil religion" of Israel.

In his essay, Klein Halevi refers to values to be treasured in Diaspora existence, "universalism," for one, "spiritual fulfillment," for another. What of these, in the light of the two pillars of contemporary Zionism thus far pointed to? They are both to be lauded and applauded, on one crucial condition, however — a *prior and unshakable* commitment to just these two pillars. As experience has shown, without that commitment, Diaspora "spirituality" all-too-easily turns into a weapon wherewith to bash the all-too-unspiritual Zionist concerns, for the security of their state, and for the rescue of Jewish lives from exile. As for Jewish "universalism," it all-too-easily becomes a Jewish concern for all humanity but — lest it be charged with egotism! — not fellow Jews. From this there would be just one step to attacks on Zionist "particularism," and one more to attacks on *Jewish* particularism, that is, to Jewish self-hatred.

Third Pillar: Jerusalem

A chair with only two legs cannot stand. That without yet a third pillar Zionism must collapse was discovered in the Six-Day War. Hence, even while still waiting for that phone call from Jordan that never came, the astounding step of annexing reunited Jerusalem by an Israeli government. Hence also the consensus to this day concerning Jerusalem in the Israeli electorate, equally astounding in view of its wide disagreements on other territorial issues. Perhaps this is also why a Jerusalem that never meant much to Israel's enemies while in Jordanian hands has loomed so large for them ever since. Not long ago Yasser Arafat expressed his hope to ride on horseback, with Saddam Hussein, victoriously into Jerusalem.

Is East Jerusalem, or is it not, "territory" from which, given trustworthy peace-treaties, Israel is to "withdraw"? UN Resolution 242 does not say. Hence

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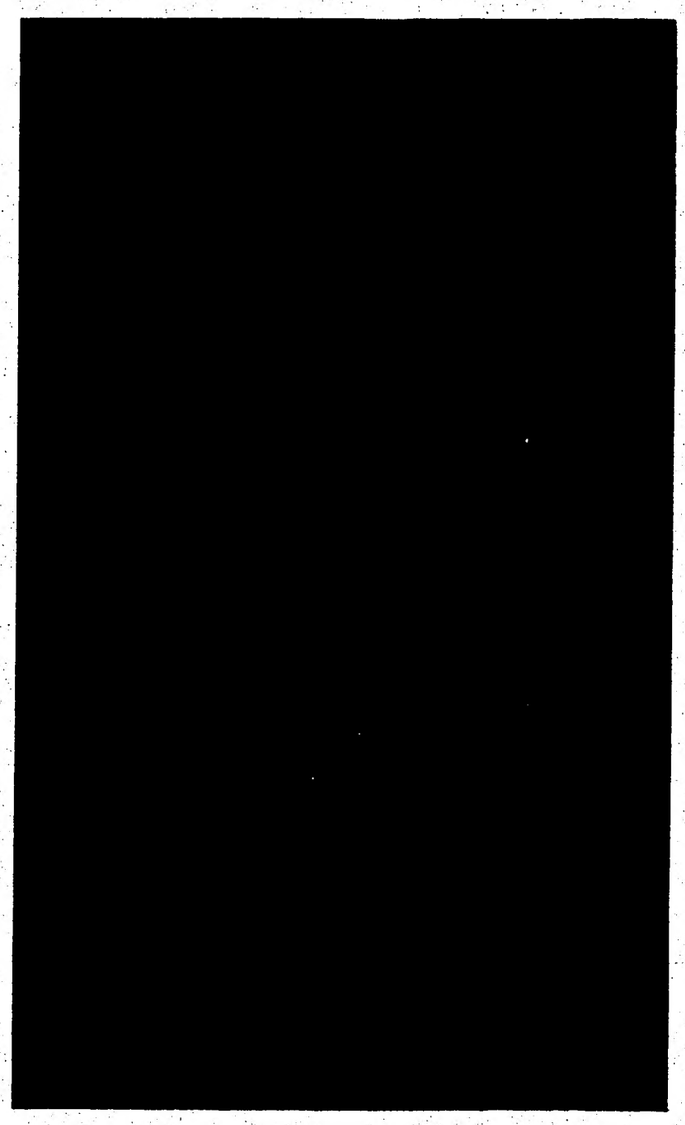


"BEGGAR WITH VIOLIN" BY M. REINBLATT MONTREAL

Dr. Emil Fackenheim *is a world-renowned theologian, now living in Israel. He is a Contributing Editor of* Viewpoints.

Diaspora Blues
Dialogue with an Israeli Friend

by Stephen Albert

Dear Friend,

There are days when one awakes and wishes that television didn't exist. December 30, 1991 was one of those days. A story about violence in the Occupied Territories led off the news of C.B.C. Newsworld that morning. A settler was strutting down the main street of an Arab village with his Uzi tucked under his arm. He casually tipped over the fruit stand that was tended by an Arab street vendor whom he proceeded to kick in the rear end. He then approached a car driven by a Palestinian with whom he exchanged a few words before smashing his headlights with his Uzi. He then smashed the headlights of two other cars. Soldiers of Tshall sat by and watched without lifting a finger to stop these illegal actions.

You may tell me that I forgot to mention that a few days before, in the very same locality, unknown assailants murdered several settlers. I am as aware as you are of such terrorist acts. You may also point out that such scenes do not show Israel in a very favourable light. Such considerations were the farthest things from my mind when I saw these scenes.

Kicking somebody in that particular part of the anatomy is tantamount to treating him as chattel. It is a not too subtle way of saying, "I am the Lord and Master here.' No fear, no anger over the death of a loved one, no love of the Land of Israel, can justify such an act. It is only possible to act this way if one thinks that the person on the receiving end of the kick is less than a human being. It doesn't take much courage to be a bully under the watchful eye of the army.

As Martin Fletcher pointed out in his report, the army has asked Palestinians to report this kind of incident in the future. It is a tribute to Israeli society that this scene could be filmed and that the army would react in this way. It is unrealistic, however, to think that Palestinians will report such incidents when they have seen the soldiers who witnessed them with their own eyes stand with their arms folded and do nothing.

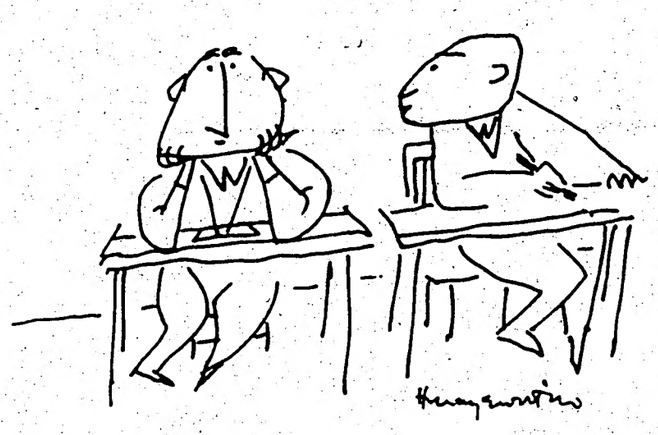
In a century which has witnessed such horror it is difficult to understand how such a relatively minor incident called up such a feeling of revulsion in me. The Palestinian will pick up his fruit stand. In a few days the victim will sit normally as if nothing had happened. The headlights will have been repaired. Nothing can erase the fact that the soldiers watching this spectacle, representatives of a State that rose out of the ashes of the Holocaust, could accept the degradation of another human being as a fact of life.

We often marvel at the fact that television can bring events half a world away into our living rooms as if we were there. This process is often more painful than we will admit. That morning I felt that each action of the settler was speaking to me: "Listen, you softie from the Diaspora. You don't know what we are going through here. I speak to the Arab in the only language that he can understand." Whether I wish to or not this is a message that I cannot ignore.

Few people would deny that any individual or group of people defines their acts in terms of their own wishes and desires. Human society doesn't operate in a vacuum. No society can pretend that the people and cultures around it simply don't exist. This is a step that many people like the settler have already taken. The existence of 1,500,000 Palestinians is more often than not perceived by them simply as an obstacle to their divine right to rule over Judea, Samaria and the Gaza.

I doubt that very many of us here in North America share the views that I've outlined here.

A recent poll of the members of the Board of the (American) Council of Jewish Federations showed that 80% of those polled supported territorial compromise in the West Bank and Gaza, in return for credible guarantees of peace, and 85% rejected Mr. Shamir's vow never to give up an inch of land.



What's startling about these views is that they're seldom stated in public. The community leaders who expressed them have had little or no impact on the policies of the Likud government. This isn't only because the Shamir government can safely ignore protests that are whispered in its ear. The dilemma that we Jews of the diaspora face comes from the way in which the Shamir government uses our political and monetary support.

Nobody need be reminded that the breakup of the Soviet Empire has brought both great danger and opportunities for Jews. The arrival of Soviet Jews in Israel has led us to open our hearts and wallets. Even the generous help we have given isn't enough. Thus the crucial importance of the loan guarantees that Israel is asking for in Washington.

Lest we forget, the thousands of Soviet Jews arriving in the State of Israel need to be housed. They settle in the Occupied Territories because the government provides them easy financing so that the average price of a home is half that of a similar home in Tel Aviv. Right-wing members of the Likud government have inserted a provision in the 1992 budget that would have 2/3 of the housing budget spent across the Green Line. Money we send to settle Russian Jews inside the Green Line may thus end up being used to create Ariel Sharon's vision of a Greater Israel.

There are 1,500,000 Palestinians in the Occupied Territories. There are now over 120,000 settlers. As more settlers arrive, the Palestinians feel more and more threatened. They begin to believe that they will never have a place that they can truly call home. Even without the help of fanatics like Hamas some of these Palestinians strike out against the settlers. The settlers then counter-attack.

Studies have shown that a majority of Israelis would trade some land for peace if their security were guaranteed. General Sharon's policy makes that impossible. Every time a settler is killed the average Israeli feels threatened. How could it be otherwise? When a Palestinian kills an Israeli whether it be a conscious terrorist attack or an act of rage he is not attacking a settler, he is attacking a Jew. This vicious circle of repression and revenge makes a peaceful settlement highly unlikely.

Therein lies the dilemma for our community. Money given out of a sense of concern ends up skewing the democratic process in Israel by supporting actions many of us aren't proud of. Not sending money leaves the Soviet Jews high and dry. This is not only a drama of individual conscience. It is now at the center of Israeli-Disapora relations. Those relations should be the subject of a full and frank debate in our community. I believe such a debate should center around the concept of a social contract between Israel and the Diaspora. We can't send our money without taking some responsibility for the way it can be used. Only at that price will we not be the hostages of the images that we see on our T.V.

Stephen Albert *is a freelance writer living in Montreal. He is working on a book on American foreign policy.*

A Letter From Israel

Dear Steve,

Thank you for faxing your article. I will hardly surprise you when I say that you approach the Israeli-Diaspora relationship solely from your position as a North American. An Israeli writing a similar article would have titled it Money and the Relationship between Israel and the Diaspora, not **Diaspora Blues**. Try for a minute to put yourself in our shoes. Is there an ambulance, a park bench or even a toilet here that doesn't carry an inscription like "Gratefully donated by Mr. and Mrs. Joe Cohen of Flatbush, N.Y."? Charity has distorted our economy in many ways, not simply poisoned our relations with the Arabs. (That's your obsession.) It destroys any concept of accountability when the time comes to draw up a budget for this country.

The idea of a Social Contract is the same kind of charity under another name. It will simply perpetuate a system of dependence while making you feel better. Our life can't be centered around what you see on your T.V. What counts is the reality of life here. A proud and self-reliant people can no longer feel they are dependent on handouts whether from you or your government. If you wish to help here, invest in our economy. That will contribute to long-term economic growth in ways that your tax-deductible charitable contributions can't hope to duplicate.

You are right: the Occupation must end. The reasons you give for ending it will convince nobody here. What does the average Israeli care if you wince when an Arab receives a swift kick in the rear? Half of the population, Sephardim like myself, have lived with this kind of humiliation for years in the Arab countries. All of us have experienced a state of conflict, real and apprehended, since the days of the Yishuv.

Your humanitarian pleas seem to them to be the fruit of your life of spoilt indolence in North America. Even those of us who have lived there for some time still see America as some kind of land of milk and honey. Remember your long flight from Montreal to Israel? What were the images of Israel that our national air line projected on the screen over your head? You saw beaches and Delta planes, a kind of California in the Mid-East. Did you feast your eyes on the deserted streets of Jerusalem late Friday night? Look for a minute at the condominiums that are going up in charming Ariel, just another suburb of Jerusalem situated on the West Bank — our Wild West. Your moralism feeds the resentment that the settlers (many of them expatriate Americans) feel for not being able to live their American dream here.

The Occupation must end because it drains our resources. What is more, it makes little strategic sense to hold on to this piece of land in the Age of Scud. Our military resources should be channeled into technological improvement, not into playing policeman — Goliath to the Palestinian rock thrower — David in a passion play for the benefit of bored T.V. audiences in North America. The fact remains that there has been a fundamental change in our relationship with you. The seeds of resentment are there. Be careful not to water them.

A Reply

Dear Friend,

I'm glad to see you are in fine form. It is a pleasure to know that you are taking a few shots at your favourite punching bag — yours truly. Fortunately for our bittersweet friendship, the Marquis of Queensbury rules allow me a few counter punches.

We may start by what the Americans so unromantically refer to as the bottom line: money. Jean-Luc Godard once noted that one rarely sees money being exchanged in films. Movies sell us pure emotion. One hardly likes to think that things as noble as love, honour, passion or even hate can be negotiated. Of

course, all human emotions are tinged with ambivalence — combining love and hate, liberty and dependence, pleasure and pain. We are all constantly negotiating our way through this inherent ambivalence. In a family, however, these things are seldom talked about. On the screen we see them in detective stories when with the death of patriarch, the descendants fight over the spoils.

Our Jewish family has had more than its share of sorrow in this century. That may explain why its members are so reluctant to separate matters of money from questions of guilt and obligation. You ignore this entirely when you approach the subject with the tact of the proverbial bull in a china shop.

It is entirely possible as you imply that a large part of your country's ills may be attributed to an addiction to foreign aid. I remind you, however, that an addict can't simply go cold turkey. If you don't believe me, look at how the Russians and even the Eastern Europeans are reacting to the shock treatment that is supposed to jar societies much more authoritarian and bureaucratic than yours into some state of normalcy. What's more, your argument is very similar to that of Likud supporter A.M. Rosenthal. In a recent column in the N.Y. Times, he suggested that Israel could do without the loan guarantees if only Shamir would have the guts to scrap the statist policies his government inherited from Labour. If he believes that, I've got a bridge in Brooklyn I'd like to sell him.

Israel's strategic dependence on the U.S. flows out of the reality of its position as a small Jewish State in the Middle East. Without the American airlift of military supplies, Israel might not have survived Sadat's surprise attack during the Yom Kippur War. The subsequent arms race in the Middle East created defense expenses that were well beyond your capacity to absorb. American aid became more important even than Diaspora solidarity. In the post-Cold War era that arms race continues even after the virtual elimination of Saddam Hussein. Unfortunately, the Americans are still arming both you and Syria. This not only ignores Assad's awful record on human rights; it perpetuates a vicious circle. Let us suppose that America stops such short-sighted policies and Israel ends the occupation and reaches peace agreements with its neighbours. It is doubtful that a small country like Israel, faced with so many other problems, would be able to bear the full burden of its own defense. One can't side-step the necessity of a U.S. alliance.

During the Cold War years Israel's role as an ally in the war against terrorism and its strategic prowess were its contribution to this alliance. The Gulf War has changed all that. The U.S. striding alone atop the world stage can maintain all its security needs itself. He has no domestic worries over this issue. The large majority of the American people supports him.

Leaving politics aside, Bush has every right to insist that American taxpayer dollars not be used to pursue policies the United States doesn't favour. The same is true of our community's relationship to Israel. You talk of how our money has destroyed any notion of accountability in Israel. What about accountability and democracy in our community? Is this made easier when your government takes our support for granted?

This brings me to the whole question of our judging your situation from a distance. That, my friend, is neither here nor there. One could argue that the constant state of conflict which you have to endure has anaesthetized your society to the political, moral and strategic costs of confrontation.

My arguments weren't made solely on the basis of moralism. Believe me, I won't celebrate when Yassar Arafat makes his triumphant entry into Nablus. The raising of the Palestinian flag brings no particular joy to my heart. I feel as you do that Israel must find a way to disengage from this mess so that it can get on with more pressing matters.

Since neither the Israeli government or our community have found ways for Israel to disengage, the ball has been in President Bush's court. It is he, and not we, who raised the tricky question of the responsible use of money. It is he, and not you, who is deciding the nature of your future relations with the Palestinians. It's time we begin defining our own solutions to these problems before we have them decided for us.

This is a moment of great opportunity. When Saddam invaded Kuwait he showed that pan-Arab nationalism and demagogic attacks on Israel posed a real threat to Arab society itself. His defeat meant that Israel faces no immediate threat to its security. I can't believe that a people who survived in a hostile region, made the desert bloom, and revived a dead language are not able to deal with these opportunities.

We both agree that isn't possible when dreams of past glory and past recipes for strategic success impede free thought. You can't simply wish away either the need for our help or the strategic alliance with the U.S. The nature of our solidarity and that alliance must be renegotiated in order to face the challenges that the end of the Cold War brings. The idea of a Social Contract supposes that our relationship be based on the enlightened self-interest and desires of both sides, not on feelings of guilt and dependence. Nations, like people, need each other. Relations between them have to be based on mutual self-respect.

Such self-respect begins at home. You talk of the fact that small parties distort your political scene. Maybe so. While fundamentalists fill a need in a world starved for spiritual nourishment, they do so in the same way that a chocolate bar fills a hungry man's stomach. The growing appeal of extreme solutions to your country's problems comes from the inability of your mainstream parties to indicate a clear and convincing road to peace. There is now no choice. President Bush has made your situation clear. You now have a chance to act. You must convince your countrymen that peace with security is possible. If you do so, you can be sure that you will easily gain the support and solidarity of a large majority of our community here. That will open up the road not only to peace, but to a healthier relationship between our two communities.

Does God Live in Jerusalem?

by Eugene Kaellis

The relationship between Jews of the Diaspora and Israel is one of many facets and innumerable complications. Pervaded by the stabilizing influence of myth, it nonetheless changes with time and, in a tactical or immediate sense, with each development that affects Jewish life in the Diaspora or the Middle East. Even the term "Diaspora," applied popularly to the alleged dispersion of the Jews after the destruction of the Second Temple, is a triumph of imagination over reality. The Jews were already well dispersed around the Mediterranean *before* the Roman destruction of Jersualem. They emigrated then, for the same motive people settle elsewhere today, largely for economic gain.

However, some aspects of the relationship remain constant enough over protracted periods to be considered fixtures.

One is that few Jews go to live in Israel because of Zionist convictions; most emigrate there out of desperation, usually economic. Notwithstanding this, although a small minority of Jews are Zionist ideologues, most of those for whom Jewish identification is an important part of their lives have, *ipso facto*, become "functional", non-aliyah Zionists — if an oxymoron, still a convention. By this I mean that, though they have no intention of emigrating to Israel, they are often more interested in, and involved with, Israel than they are with their own Jewish communities, and certainly more than with "non-Jewish" issues and communities in the countries in which they live. A glance at the Jewish press, at the themes of Jewish functions, at fund-raising activities demonstrates how Israel dominates all spheres of Jewish activity in the Diaspora.

Ideology Dominates in Israel

At the same time that Western Jews are looking to Israel, Israel itself is looking eastward, i.e., it is becoming "Levantized." In its fundamental cultural and political traits, the Jewish Homeland increasingly resembles other countries of the Middle East. One characteristic of this process is a growing political polarization. Contrasting with the, by now well established consensus of pragmatic moderation in North America and the European Community politics, ideology rules the roost in Israel. Authoritarian attitudes and the penetration of theology into politics are its two outstanding manifestations, the latter obviously parallel to Islamic fundamentalist and theocratic movements so widely extant among Israel's Arabic neighbours. The rapid decline of Israel's standard of living also contributes to this Levantization by creating disparities of wealth more characteristic of its neighbours than, for example, of Western Europe.

Much of this Levantization derives from the fact that the sources of what is now the most significant part of Israel's population are Arab countries of the Middle East and North Africa. The influx of Russian Jews may slow down Levantization, but it will not stop or reverse it. The geopolitical and geocultural influences are stronger. The inevitable interpenetration of neighbouring cultures, is a process accelerated, not diminished, by strife. It is apparent, for example, that the Arabs, and especially the Palestinians, in the course of their struggle against Israel have become Judaized in much of their political style, while simultaneously the Israelis have often taken on the political and military trappings of their enemies.

Israelis Consider the Diaspora a Useful Anachronism

Insofar as the Israeli attitude toward Diaspora Jews is concerned, it seems to be hewing to its traditional pattern. Israelis still think that after 1948 the Diaspora became an anachronism, albeit a persistent and useful one. This is particularly evident since the beginning of the Russian Exodus, which Israelis see as a vindication of their thesis that Jewish communities cannot long survive outside Israel. This, in spite of the fact that thousands of Israelis leave yearly to live in North America and that the flow from what used to be the U.S.S.R. has not met expectations, probably because economic conditions are now so bad in Israel and because, in spite of the hardships and threats they are now experiencing, Russian and other Jews of the former Soviet Union now can hope for improvement in their condition.

The hasty over-reaction of Israel to an expected mammoth aliyah can undoubtedly be justified on the basis of a reasonable prognosis. On the other hand, it is not difficult to detect an element of "worsist" fulfilment in Israeli reaction to any troubles Diaspora Jews face or may face. This "worsism" is both ideological the persistence of irremediable anti-Semitism remains, after all one of the basic tenets of Zionist ideology (safety in numbers as threatened Jews flee to Israel).

These, I believe, are among the basic characteristics of the relationship. What emerges, in addition to mutual concern and affection, is obviously tension, a tension which, at times, plunges into outright adversity.

Continuing Tension Must Be Expected

There is much that could be said of the causes and consequences of these characteristics. Whatever they may be, I agree with the oft-made observation that the gap between Diaspora Jews and Israelis will probably

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DOES GOD LIVE IN JERUSALEM?

Continued from page 5

widen in the years ahead and ultimately attain a fluctuating normalcy of distance, replete with co-existing loyalties and disdains. Given the endlessly recurrent crises in the Middle East to which Diaspora Jews, expected to be ever politically indefatigable and financially competent, are supposed to react with lobbying action and monetary support, I foresee a deepening social fatigue setting in among Diaspora Jews vis-à-vis their presumed obligations to Israel. This fatigue has, I believe, already commenced.

During the current recession, as Diaspora Jews become increasingly concerned about themselves, partly as an economic consequence and partly because of the usual shifts of political modalities, there may well be a reassertion of the kind of Jewish involvement with domestic social causes that characterized even the middle class Jewish community in pre-Israel days. Right now, that involvement seems to be at ebb tide.

Basic Shift in American Policy Toward Israel

All of this is taking place against the backdrop of a basic strategic shift in American policy which has moved Israel from the assets column to something approaching a liability. Once more the adage that "In diplomacy, there are no friendships, only alliances," is proving true. With the breakdown of OPEC solidarity (which could quickly reassert itself on the basis of an American "provocation"), with a growing alliance between the U.S.A. and so-called moderate Arab states, such as Saudi Arabia and Kuwait, and the strengthening of ties with hard-liners like Syria, why does the United States need Israel as an "unsinkable aircraft carrier" in the Middle East? Indeed, if the U.S. fears the resurgence of a strong Russia, this time under nationalistic, right-wing, expansionist leadership, its preferred strategy would be to exploit the Muslim underbelly of the former Soviet Union, stretching all the way from Azerbaijan to Afghanistan.

Therefore, Israel now hangs around the American strategic neck if not like an albatross, at least like a dead pigeon. American Jews are finding the going rough; their pleas for loan guarantees, for the latest weapons, and, in general, for political support for Israel are falling on unreceptive ears. What also adds to their fatigue and frustration is being criticized by Israelis for not working hard enough at the same time that they are told to mind their own business if they suggest territorial compromises with the Palestinians or other fundamental changes in Israeli policy.

Mythic Reliance On High Tech Weapons By Israel

To some American Jews not only does Israeli political thinking seem lacking in flexibility, even Israeli military strategy has succumbed to a mythic reliance on high-tech weapons. The success of the Americans in the Gulf War has unfortunately added to this erroneous thinking. If Iraqi military strategy had been based on rational command decisions rather than on the ridiculous boasting and posturing of Saddam Hussein, the allied victory would have been far from overwhelming and there might have been a recurrence of a proto-Vietnam scenario. The fact is that a hand-held rocket launcher, costing a few hundred dollars at most, can wreak havoc with aircraft and weapons carriers costing hundreds of thousands or millions of dollars and simultaneously destroy highly trained personnel. It is useful to remember that the highly technologized Russians lost the war in Afghanistan to a relatively lightly armed foe. Yet, a significant part of Israeli strategy is based on presumed technological advantage, including nuclear arms Israel could use only *in extremis*.

The preoccupation of Diaspora Jews with Israel has also contributed to a sense of nationalism tinged with elitism. This reached its apogee after the Six Day War but remains a palpable component of Jewish self-awareness. Nationalism has long been with us and is now perhaps the most potent force in the world. Nonetheless, I cannot think of a single instance in which nationalism, that of the Jews or anybody else, ever benefitted Jews. It creates triumphalism, ultimately demands internal conformity, and erodes a rational perspective of self-interest. The Biblical irredentism of some sections of the Israeli and Diaspora populations is a very disturbing feature of contemporary Jewish life.

Locus-centred Religion Is Another Concern

Another, related aspect of Israel-Diaspora relations which concerns me is what might be called the growth of "locus-centered" religious attitudes. Concentrating on Israel as the "spiritual center" of Judaism is to me no less disturbing than the fixation by other religious groups on their presumed centers, e.g., Catholics on the Vatican, Muslims on Mecca, Sikhs on Amritsar.

The problem with a locus-centered religion is that it inevitably becomes sacerdotal, with the "proprietors" of "The Place" transforming themselves into ritual technicians who exercise (or attempt to exercise) supreme religious authority. Such a development tends to objectify and materialize what is best left unobjectified and spiritual. It emphasizes particularity rather than universalism, it stresses immanence rather than transcendence, it promotes a nativism or tribalism that ultimately merges into chauvinism. Although sponsors of a renewed temple cult remain a minority even in Israel, they do manage to strike resonant chords among wider sections of the Jewish population in Israel and the Diaspora.

It is, of course, possible to over-spiritualize and de-subjectify religion, but for contemporary Judaism, I find locus-centered religion a retrogressive and disturbing development.

But, to place the relationship between Diaspora Jews and Israelis in its broader context: What is characteristic of Jewish life in general is its existence by and through a series of unresolvable dichotomies. Immanence and transcendence, particularism and universalism are among the most important. No one expects (or wants) these to be dissolved by some sort of (impossible) resolution. In that instance, the tensions and vitality would disappear from Jewish existence; Jacob would stop wrestling before the dawn and awake to the world minus his well-deserved blessing. One hopes that the dialectic between Israel and the Diaspora will generate what Martin Luther King called "creative tension." However, right now it seems to me that a balance (albeit a momentary one) has to be restored by de-emphasizing the growing locus-orientation of Judaism. To accomplish this, I hope for the emergence of a more independent and assertive attitude in the Diaspora.

By the simple extrapolation of present demographic trends, one can easily predict the self-accelerating loss of numbers and of Jewish identity among Diaspora Jews in the twenty-first century. But, that too is subject to choice. We can maintain healthy and creative Jewish communities outside of Israel, communities that need experience no embarrassment at, nor offer any apologia for, their existence. This can best be done by turning our faces outward, to the general community, and demonstrating to it and to ourselves the moral rectitude, the engaging traditions, the sustaining beliefs and the essential humaneness of Judaism and Jewish culture.

"OY GEVALT"

Continued from page 2

Figures Today Regarding Jewish Practices Are Encouraging

So those are the numbers and I will leave the interpretation up to you. If you want to cry "gevalt!," go ahead. It's therapeutic, many of us enjoy it, it's part of being a Jew. I look at these numbers and I say to myself, there are many serious problems facing the Jewish world and Canadian Jews today, but I'm not convinced that synagogue involvement is the most crucial. I think it has always been a fact of modern life and is understandable from a sociological point of view, that it is difficult to get teenagers or college students interested in synagogue life. (This is less the case for the Orthodox; it is more a problem for the other denominations.) I would argue that one wants to wait to see what happens when those allegedly disaffected youth marry, raise children, settle down to an occupation, buy a home, etc. This is my response to the Canadian evidence, but of course, people may take issue with my interpretation.

INTERVIEW

Continued from page 1

Jewish Congress. I believe that Canadian Jewish Congress over the last three years has developed a presence on behalf of the Canadian Jewish community that reflects well upon the Jewish community here in Canada. We have developed a program of advocacy that we are proud of as an organization. We have defined the priorities.

SK: Define them.

LS: The priorities are combatting racism and anti-Semitism, strengthening Jewish communal knowledge and sensitivity to Israel, Jewish continuity here in Canada, the development of a sophisticated political advocacy apparatus on behalf of the Jewish community and also assuming the responsibilities and obligations as a leading Jewish community internationally to relate to other Jewish communities who may not be as fortunate as we are here in Canada.

SK: How strong is Congress as a lobby to the Canadian government on behalf of the interests of this country's Jews?

LS: It is very interesting that the Jewish community here in Canada really has thrived and succeeded in many ways, both as a community and as individuals. We can be very proud that Canadian Jews have positions of prominence in society. We have had a Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Canada who was Jewish. We have had a Premier who is Jewish. We have judges and mayors and members of parliament. We have had an ambassador to the United Nations who is Jewish. We are a young community compared to other Diaspora communities throughout the world. We have a long way to go in terms of the development of the sophisticated advocacy program for the community, but at the same time I think we have made tremendous strides. We have been able to relate to the government of Canada in a very substantive sense, and I think that the government of Canada, over the last few years, is beginning to listen very carefully to the Jewish community in terms of our needs, our positions and our views. It is beginning to understand many of our concerns. We have, at Congress, developed a program of ongoing relations with government, which involve not only meetings at the grass roots level, with Members of Parliament, and Members of Provincial Legislatures, but ongoing dialogue with government officials, Ministers, Premiers and the Prime Minister. We continue to raise our issues and to sensitize political leaders, non-governmental organizations and the public to our concerns. So we have a long way to go. We will make mistakes on the way, but I think we are on the road to having appropriate advocacy for our community.

THREE PILLARS

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it is not all that surprising that those guided by it have not endorsed Israel's act of 1967, and that not many embassies are located in Jerusalem. However, all those sincerely concerned with peace, recognizing in Jerusalem the most intractable of all problems, have long followed a silent compact: the issue would not be raised until the peace process was all-but-complete. Given such near-completeness and putting Jerusalem last, many things might be possible. Putting Jerusalem first, none would be.

This silent compact has now been breached by the greatest power among Israel's friends, at the very time that it took unprecedented steps to move toward peace. Along with much else — beyond the scope of these pages — this has served to bring dramatically to the Jewish mind — Diaspora *as well* as Israel — this question: just what is it that makes Jerusalem into a pillar without which *everything* would collapse?

That Jerusalem was a deep concern for the first, Babylonian Diaspora is well known: they would not forget Jerusalem. Less well known is the deep concern that started with the beginning of the second Diaspora, to which the present one is heir. When Israel went into exile, a Midrash says, the *Shechina*, the spirit of God, went with her, for God's spirit is bound up with people and not with holy stones. Yet in one spot it remained, at the Western Wall in Jerusalem. What was it doing there all these centuries, when Jews were elsewhere? It was waiting, for Jews to return.

The Hidden Mezuzah

by Michael Greenstein

for Ann and Joe Feldman

The word *mezuzah* has more than one meaning. In the first place it means doorpost, without any religious connotations; in the second instance, however, *mezuzah* refers to the prayer scroll in a case which may be affixed to the doorpost of any Jewish home. Hence some confusion arises from the juxtaposition of doorpost, case, and enclosed scroll. To complicate matters further, the word may be derived from the Hebrew *zuz*, the root for "to move," and this contradictory relationship between stationary doorpost or fixed scroll and its kinetic origin suggests that the *mezuzah* carries with it a complexity beyond religious connotations. Indeed, the Hebrew *mezu-l'zu* (from here to there) indicates the hinge-like function from one doorpost to another, while another meaning of *zuz* (coin) confirms its two-sidedness or highly-charged ambiguity.

A reminder of Exodus and Exile

Mezuzah first appears in the Bible in Exodus when Jews are instructed to mark their doorposts so that the angel of death might pass over their houses in order to punish only the Egyptian households. Thereafter the *mezuzah* served to identify Jewish homes: the threshold became a reminder of history, Exodus, and Exile — the diasporic condition par excellence, re-enacted annually during the ritual of Passover. To mark the doorpost accordingly is to highlight the tensions between home and wandering — the still point in a nomadic universe. The Greeks placed a statue of Hermes at their gates or doorways to affirm the possibility of journeying; the *mezuzah* fulfill a similar function at the threshold of time and place.

The noted anthropologist Victor Turner has devoted most of his career to studying the relationship of thresholds to ritual processes in different societies. According to Turner's scheme, an individual undergoing a rite of passage passes through three stages — pre-liminary, liminary, and post-liminary. Of these three, the liminary or threshold stage is the most important, for during this intermediate period the individual steps outside of society's laws and structures to enter a freer state of "communitas" which Turner compares to Buber's "I-Thou" relationship. "Liminal entities are neither here nor there; they are betwixt and between the positions assigned and arrayed by law, custom, convention, and ceremonial." This notion of liminality thus provides another perspective for observing marginal or transitional activities related to the artistic process. After passing through this intermediate stage the individual re-enters society with a higher status and in so doing, he manages to elevate society itself.

Jewish Writers Focus on Thresholds

Turner's anthropological system pertains to Jewish writers not only because of the liminal nature of all writing and the traditional marginality of Jewish experience in the Diaspora, but also because many Jewish writers focus on a variety of thresholds and view the Exodus as an historic rite of passage for Jewry. Literally and figuratively the *mezuzah* stands as a reminder of historic crossing of thresholds celebrated in the Passover ritual which re-enacts a collective rite of passage and the experience of "communitas." The *mezuzah*, in short, symbolizes liminality; it is a mark of marginality for the Jewish imagination.

Turner's theories have influenced Jereme Rothenberg's poetry and thought — his "ethnopoetics" or ways of entering marginal societies from American Indian to Jewish. In "Poland/1931" Rothenberg returns to his ancestral roots and imagines a wedding where grooms and brides cross thresholds: "shall stand like kings inside thy doorways/shall throw their arms around thy lintels poland."

Rothenberg combines avant-garde verse and a return to the past in *Khurbn* which opens with Clayton Eshleman's epigraph, "Since the hidden is bottomless, totality is more invisible than visible." An invisible *mezuzah* appears in "Dos Oysleydikin (The Emptying)": "the shadow of an empty name still on their doors / shadai and shadow shattering the mother tongue." So phonetically close to shadow, "shadai" stands for God's name written on the *mezuzah*'s case. The three letters (*shin*, *daled*, *yud*) represent *Shomer D'latot Yisreal* — God's function of guarding over the doors of the children of Israel. Indeed, the fourth letter of the alphabet, *daled*, has the appearance of a door or open mouth of mother tongue. Hidden and visible, Jerome Rothenberg's paradoxical *mezuzot* offer points of entry to his tradition.

The opening paragraph of Rothenberg's *A Big Jewish Book* introduces the architecture for a hidden *mezuzah* in the domicile of mystery and creativity:

> There was a dream that came before the book, & I might as well tell it. I was in a house identified by someone as THE HOUSE OF JEWS, where there were many friends gathered, maybe everyone I knew. Whether they were Jews or not was unimportant: I was & because I was I had to lead them through it. But we were halted at the entrance to a room, not a room really, more like a great black hole in space. I was frightened & exhilarated, both at once, but like the others I held back before the darkness. The question came to be the room's name, as if to give the room a *name* would open it. I knew that, & I strained my eyes & body to get near the room, where I could feel, as though a voice was whispering to me, creation going on inside it. And I said it was called CREATION.

Today Ambivalent Poets Recreate Their Own Scrolls.

To name is to confer identity: God's name on the *mezuzah* cover marks the Jewish dwelling where the poet identifies with his or her particular history. Halting at the two-directional threshold, ambivalent Jewish poets explore the darkness and recreate their own scrolls at the entrance. They write their updated messages on the gates and doorposts of their modern American dwellings, and the resultant tensions between guardians of the faith and the avant-garde animate their art.

The distinguished American poet Karl Shapiro has written "The Mezuzah," a poem about two Christians who come to his door to hand out religious literature:

> I pointed to the jamb
> where I had tacked the doorpost prayer
> hidden in its small bronze case
> to consecrate the house. I said
> that is the holy letter Shin,
> that is the secret name of God;
> inside are praise and promises.
> Sirs, when you see that talisman
> you really ought to skip that house.

After staring at it they do indeed go away, but the reader's eye should linger, for Shapiro has inverted the historic skipping over in Egypt by the angel of death and has the Christians passing over instead. Shapiro's traditional "*mezuzaic*" juxtaposition of door, prayer, case, hidden letters, threshold, and passing over may be the most overt instance of the *mezuzah* in American-jewish poetry, but other covert examples suggest that we really ought not to skip the house of Jewish fiction and poetry. Indeed, many Jewish writers may refer to the *mezuzah* subliminally (or under the threshold) where it has been buried in their collective unconscious.

A.M. Klein, who was influenced by Shapiro, has written about *mezuzot*. The opening stanzas of Klein's "Autobiographical" suggest the *mezuzah* and initiate the poet's coming of age.

> Out of the ghetto streets where a Jewboy
> Dreamed pavement into pleasant Bible-land,
> Out of the Yiddish slums where childhood met
> The friendly beard, the loutish Sabbath-goy,
> Or followed, proud, the Torah-escorting band,
> Out of the jargoning city I regret,
> Rise memories.

The triple repetition, "Out of", combines the space of ghetto streets, the time of memories rising, and the

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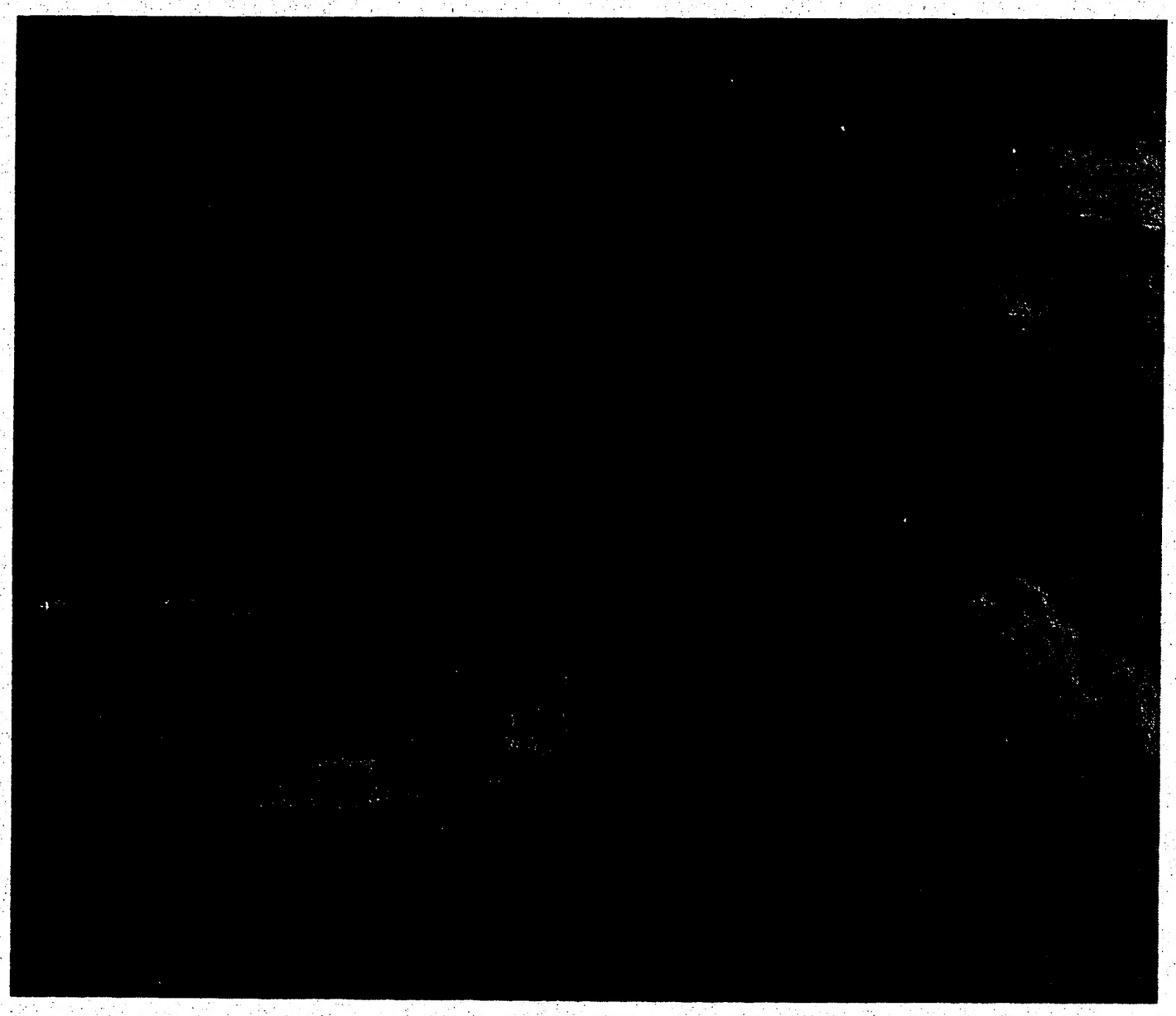


"S.L.W.W. 9038" BY YEHOUDA CHAKI ROBERTSON GALLERIES, OTTAWA

THE HIDDEN MEZUZAH

Continued from page 7

transformation of streets into pleasant Bible-land. All three senses of the phrase belong to a transitional stage of crossing thresholds of childhood and ghetto boundaries so that Klein's personal experience becomes a biography of Jewry.

"Heart In, Head Out" Describes Many Jewish Intellectuals

Irving Kristol's telling phrase, "heart in, head out," with reference to New York's intellectuals who longed for the world of their fathers at the synagogue door but at the same time looked for modern American values, seems particularly appropriate to Klein's threshold position. For Klein does indeed shift from his "Out of... into" construction in the first stanza to the lintels of Ashkenazi's market and the big synagogue door with letters of gold:

Again they ring their little bells, those doors
Deemed by the tender-year's, magnificent...
. . . . . .
The lintels candy-poled...
. . . . . .
And the big synagogue door, with letters of gold.

Within Klein's tradition, Seymour Mayne lends an ironic twist to thresholds in "Begging." In a series of short lines the poet carries on a dialogue with the beggar at his door. The beggar asks for shoes before money because his children wander through the Diaspora:

So I shuffle
from door to door
My shoes have touched
more thresholds
in this city
of golden light
than even he
the Angel who comes
with a sick grin
and rarely
dusts his feet
before he comes in
to snatch us
bewildered
to his smothering wings.

Mayne's threshold is the site of various exchanges: dialogic, ethical, monetary, and historic. The poet concludes by giving him money and requesting that the Angel of death pass over his door:

I gave him coins
and paper money
and begged him
to tell his partner
the Angel
that this door
had already
been fully canvassed
thank you.

Roles are reversed with the poet doing the begging: the *mezuzah* identifies the Jewish household and its inhabitant in the city of golden light.

The Hidden Mezuzah

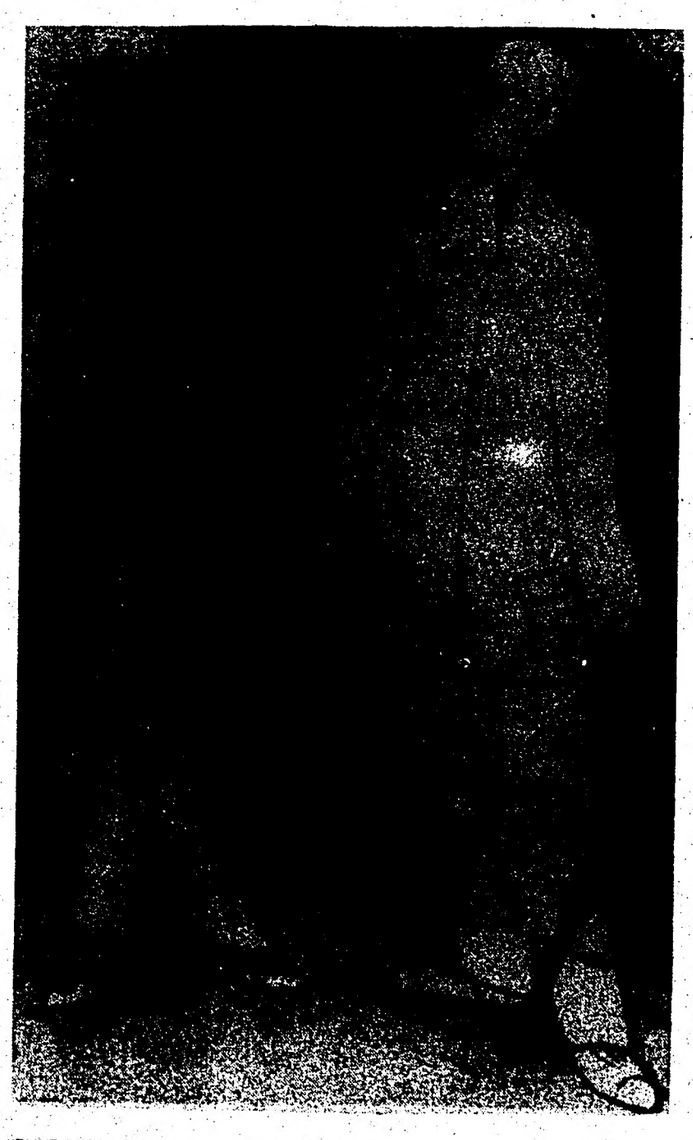
Phyllis Gotlieb writes about the hidden *mezuzah* in "Blood on the Door". About the Passover experience, the poem begins with an examination of parts of the ritual and concludes with a liminal state of in-betweenness.

At the festival of the bitter
the table of the dry bone,
interminable last
supper of the alone

mute at the barmecide
the stranger in the skin
crumbles bread of impotence
and cries to be let in

through doors of lipwarmth
loveheat and gate of talk
phantom, for at night
all resolves again to the dark.

This kafkaesque mysteriousness arises from the mixture of Jewish and Christian traditions, *seder* and Last Supper, plenitude and the emptiness of a barmecide (a false feast with empty dishes). Gotlieb situates the paradox of a dark resolution at the threshold or meeting point between interior warmth and the cold exterior of exile.



"BLIND BEGGAR" BY M. REINBLATT MONTREAL

The second half of the poem intensifies this mystery:

As the deep fish spawning
waiting the fall of milt
whom warm current seduces
chooses bars of ice and salt...

nothing can touch the quick
like necessity, dread
imperative that cuts with
both edges of the sword

him with his stinging
lips, forever told
what salt road he may walk
between the cold and the cold.

On one hand, these transitional fish may be associated with Christian symbolism of the Last Supper (just as bars of ice echo barmecide); on the other, however, they signal a rebirth and prepare for the crossing of the Red Sea at the heart of the Passover ritual. The enigmatic stranger — at once Elijah and perpetual outsider — seeks the lipwarmth not only of the cup of wine but of the *mezuzah* of door and gate. But the lipwarmth of the first half turns in the second half lips stinging because of cold, salt, and a double-edged sword. This double-edged sword is the sceptre belonging to the angel of death passing over the house, but it is also the double-edged nature of liminality, the seduction of thresholds, and ambiguity between cold and cold. The lips remain mute as long as the *mezuzah* is as hollow as the barmecide; they must be filled with meaning and messages.

Jewish History Focuses on Thresholds

Kenneth Sherman's "The Messenger" proves an interesting companion piece for Gotlieb's "Blood on the Door" with the twin blade turning to the "cold sceptre of the Pharaoh." Sherman's six stanzas describe a personal rite of passage that reflects Jewish history focused on thresholds: "I hear the fluttering of the dire angel as he hesitates, then passes my door." The reference to Pharaoh in the fourth stanza indicates a re-enactement of the original *mezuzah* experience with the angel of death passing over the poet's door. Sherman updates the historical moment by personalizing the event as another messenger follows the first angel. This second presence is one of the poet's "former selves" — a pre-liminal being as well as an ancestor. The hard sounds of "dire," "dark," "determined," and "deft" signal an oppressive atmosphere around the door.

The messenger, as ominous as Gotlieb's "stranger in the skin," stands by the poet's bed:

In his larynx
I feel the cold sceptre of the Pharaoh
as he speaks in a monotone
intoning at last the name of my father.

This patriarchal and Pharaonic invocation challenges the poet in this shadowing rite of passage:

I shall not return.
With each resistance
I grow stronger.
On his flesh

I smell the familiar incense
of the court's inner circle.
My eyes are wide in the dark. —
I shall spend my life in exile.

Refusing the easy comforts of the post-liminal resolution, the poet lingers at his threshold in opposition to the inner circle of Pharaoh's and father's court. A kafkaesque exile or stronger stranger, Sherman clings to a doorpost marked by a hidden *mezuzah*, not unlike the children in his "Anderson the Ice-Man": "Shy, they huddled by the doorway / taking in the particulars of a cottage / inhabited by Jews." In the course of his particular, Sherman both huddles by and shies away from the *mezuzah* since his "Golem Poems" proclaim that "unmarked doors [are] a metaphor for mind." The equation between *mezuzah* and metaphor remains hidden.

Secular Scribes Guard Their Own Gates

If only for a moment, modern Jewish writers tarry at the threshold, pay lip-service to their hidden *mezuzah*, and transform the subliminal into the sublime before moving on to the next room. By guarding their own gates, these secular scribes keep the faith. Klein, Mayne, Gotlieb, Sherman, Shapiro, Rothenberg, and a host of others rally around ongoing Jewish crossings (the X of expulsion, exodus, and exile), so different from the fixed cross of Christianity. Re-guarding a door, so much depends on a timeworn covenant at thresholds for the coming and going of ages.

POETRY

Waving the Flag

by Shel Krakofsky

the flag swells high
on the pleasant lawn
of a pleasant house
in this pleasant neighborhood
those behind the closed door
insist they know
what our flag is all about

their values

they swear allegiance
to similarity

their similarity

on their lawn
it is not my flag
hoisted not as a pledge
but as warning

could they be(come)
Amalekites
their pole ready
to skewer?

their welcome mat
extended only to
the right people,
a trusted welcome
in this neighborhood
comes from flagless homes
waving greetings
from stiff parchment
lovingly encased
on the right doorposts

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